

**Daily Reflection on Scripture**  
**Week of April 2**  
**Finding Wisdom in the Wilderness**  
**A Time for New Beginnings**



Each day slowly read the scripture a couple of times. Close your eyes and be with it for a moment in silence. How did it speak to you?

**Sunday April 2**

*Romans 5:3b-5 ...we know that trouble produces endurance, endurance produces character, and character produces hope. This hope doesn't put us to shame, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.*

**Sacred Pause:** Trouble and difficulties have the potential to produce godly wisdom in you. Compassion comes through pain. Forgiveness comes through hurt.

**Monday April 3**

*Romans 8:18 I believe that the present suffering is nothing compared to the coming glory that is going to be revealed to us.*

**Sacred Pause:** By staying with the struggles God strengthens us and leads us to a new place; gives a new vision for life. Stay with the struggle.

**Tuesday April 4**

*II Corinthians 4:16-18 ...even if our bodies are breaking down on the outside, the person that we are on the inside is being renewed every day. Our temporary minor problems are producing an eternal stockpile of glory for us that is beyond all comparison. We don't focus on the things that can be seen but on the things that can't be seen. The things that can be seen don't last, but the things that can't be seen are eternal.*

**Sacred Pause:** Faith is the proof of what we cannot see with our eyes. It is the hope of coming to a new and greater orientation for life. That's wisdom.

**Wednesday April 5**

*Isaiah 41:10 Don't fear, because I am with you; don't be afraid, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, I will surely help you; I will hold you with my righteous strong hand.*

**Sacred Pause:** 365 times in the Bible messengers of God come saying, "Don't be afraid". It is the most repeated word from God. Today, don't be afraid.

**Thursday April 6**

*II Corinthians 4:8-9 We are experiencing all kinds of trouble, but we aren't crushed. We are confused, but we aren't depressed. We are harassed, but we aren't abandoned. We are knocked down, but we aren't knocked out.*

**Sacred Pause:** Wilderness never has the last word, but it always has a word for those who will listen and learn from the great wisdom of God found there.

**Friday April 7**

*James 1:2-4 My brothers and sisters, think of the various tests you encounter as occasions for joy. After all, you know that the testing of your faith produces endurance. Let this endurance complete its work so that you may be fully mature, complete, and lacking in nothing.*

**Sacred Pause:** Revision your struggles as an opportunity to grow more fully into a person of compassion, forgiveness and service. That's godly wisdom.

**Saturday April 8**

*Philippians 4:8 From now on, brothers and sisters, if anything is excellent and if anything is admirable, focus your thoughts on these things: all that is true, all that is holy, all that is just, all that is pure, all that is lovely, and all that is worthy of praise.*

**Sacred Pause:** Focusing your thoughts on positive things will lessen the amount of negative thoughts that overwhelm you. Think of things that are lovely.