

“**WILDERNESS**” – from the Greek, “eremos” = “desert, deserted place, desolate place, solitary place, lonely place, quiet place, wilderness

“One day when the crowds were being baptized, Jesus himself was baptized. As he was praying, the heavens opened, and the Holy Spirit, in bodily form, descended on him like a dove. And a voice from heaven said, ‘**You are my dearly loved Son, and you bring me great joy.**’ Then Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan River. He was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where he was tempted by the devil for forty days.” – LUKE 3:21-22; 4:1-2

Jesus was _____ to navigate the wild

- “Then Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan River.” – LUK. 4:1

1. By knowing His _____ = His who

- “...**my dearly loved Son...**”
- The Father says, “I claim you, you belong to me!”

2. By knowing His _____ = His whose

- “...**my dearly loved Son...**”
- The Father says, “I love you!”

3. By knowing His _____ = His calling

- “...**and you bring me great joy.**”
- The Father said, “I delight in you!”

NOTICE → God revealed all this _____ Jesus had done anything

- “Into the wilderness of testing, armed with only the spiritual business card his Father had affirmed at his baptism, Jesus went.” – DAN WILT

Like Jesus, we too need to be _____ to navigate the wild

1. By knowing we are _____ by the Father

- “I have called you by name; you are mine.” – ISA. 43:1
- “When the right time came, God sent his Son, born of a woman, subject to the law. God sent him to buy freedom for us who were slaves to the law, so that he could adopt us as his very own children. And because we are his children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, prompting us to call out, ‘Abba, Father.’ Now you are no longer a slave but God’s own child. And since you are his child, God has made you his heir.” – GAL. 4:4-7

2. By knowing the true _____ of the Father

- “See, I have written your name on the palms of my hands.” – ISA. 49:16
- “May you have the power to understand, as all God’s people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love is. May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully.” – EPH. 3:17-19

3. By knowing our true _____ is from the Father

- “Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes.” – EPH. 1:4
- “When God our Savior revealed his kindness and love, he saved us, not because of the righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He washed away our sins, giving us a new birth and new life through the Holy Spirit. He generously poured out the Spirit upon us through Jesus Christ our Savior.” – TIT. 3:4-6

“When your name, and below it, **BELOVED SON** or **BELOVED DAUGHTER**, is all you have on your business card, then you are ready to do, or not to do, anything that pleases the Father.”

– DAN WILT