

Hosea 2:14

### Wilderness

*Therefore, behold, I will allure her, will bring her into the wilderness, and speak comfort to her.*

There's something about being in the wilderness that is satisfying and peaceful, even when the wilderness experience is challenging. Just like God reminded Israel how He would draw her to Himself in the wilderness to comfort and save her, God uses the wilderness experience for believers today to satisfy their longing for Him and to give them peace in the middle of chaos. It doesn't matter if the wilderness is the backyard, the back forty, or the outback. When God draws us there, the wilderness experience is satisfying, serene, if not sometimes too short. When it's time to leave our brief adventure in the wilderness, may we do so knowing that our Savior has been glorified and exalted as a result of His drawing us there in the first place.

God draws us, God brings us, and God speaks to us. When engaged in your activities, think about these three things and how it pleases God to give you opportunities outdoors. Never forget to thank God for meeting you there and for the adventure you experienced.

**TIP:** Choose a room in your house (like a den or hobby room) to display pictures of your outdoor experiences. Let each of the four walls represent a season of the year: spring, summer, autumn, and winter.

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## Hosea 2:14 (Study Guide)

### Wilderness

#### HOOK

1. Name a wilderness area, State Park, or National Park that is closest to your home.

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2. List in order of importance 10 items you'd backpack on a three day hike.

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3. Discuss some valuable natural resources found in wilderness areas and why they are protected.

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#### LINE

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God draws us, God brings us, and God speaks to us.

When you read or hear the word 'wilderness' in the Bible, what Biblical imagery seems to be implied?

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The verse describes three things God does for us: He draws or allures us, He brings us, and He speaks to us. What does this mean to you?

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#### SINKER

Take a few minutes to write your thoughts on this devotional. Reflect on your own experiences.

Key words: wilderness                      comfort                      God allures

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