

# Lent 3: Wilderness Wanderings

Sometimes it's a good idea to stay with just a few lines of Scripture and let them soak in. That's what we want to do this week. Start by copying 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 onto a card or piece of paper. Put it in a prominent spot in your room. Read these words slowly each day and think about the meaning of each idea. Let these verses fill your mind and begin to shape your relationships with family and friends. You can share responses with others by e-mail or journal about them for yourself. Trust God to help you be the best person you can be in all your relationships!

Each day, if you have a candle, light it. *The time of the sacred search has begun.* Read 1 Corinthians 13:4-7.

## Week 3, Day 1

Today, think of your relationship with God. How has this relationship developed since you were a child? In the last year? In the last month? What has changed and what stays the same? Think of one way you have experienced God's love. Consider one way you have shown your love for God. What area of your relationship with God right now could be more loving? Talk to God about one thing you can do to make a change. Extinguish the candle.

## Week 3, Day 2

Today, think of your relationships with parents/guardians. In what ways do you treat them kindly, honestly, or with patience? Have you been irritable or resentful toward your parents in the last month? How? Consider also how you would describe your parents' attitudes toward you. Think about one way that you could work on these relationships so they would be more loving. Pray that love between you and your parents will keep growing. Extinguish the candle.

## Week 3, Day 3

Today, think of your relationships with brothers and sisters or extended family. Try to describe the kind of relationship you have with each family member. How are they the same or different from a year ago? How are these loving relationships? How are they not? Consider one way you express love toward your family members. Choose one characteristic from the Bible passage to work on. Pray for help to show this characteristic to your family members this week. Extinguish the candle.

## Week 3, Day 4

Today, think of your relationships with friends. Consider several friendships that are important to you. How would you describe them? Do you hope the best for your friends? Do you believe in them? Do you encourage them to be truthful? In what ways do your friendships model the Bible passage? Thank God for what is loving in your friendships. Decide on one area that needs change and pray for help to accomplish it. Extinguish the candle.

## Week 3, Day 5

Today, think of a relationship that is special to you. It might be a friendship, a dating relationship, a family relationship, or someone else you care about. What makes this person special to you? How have you shown you care about him or her? Think about one way you have shown love to this person recently. Choose one characteristic from the Bible passage that might change this relationship for the better. Pray that God will fill you with love and wisdom as you continue to work at this relationship. Extinguish the candle.