**The Spirit’s leading into Dry Times**

**Psalm 63:1-8**

Have you felt like you are in a dry and weary land where there is no water? Perhaps you have tried desperately to follow God’s leading but wound up in the desert? No matter what you do, what you read or where you go, you still come up dry and empty. Part of the ministry of the Holy Spirit is to lead us into the desert!

1. Many Biblical figures wound up in the desert: Hagar, Moses, Elijah, David, Jonah, John the Baptist, Paul. Why is the desert important?
   1. A test of motivation: Deuteronomy 8:2
   2. To help us to grow: Luke 1:80
   3. To give us rest: Mark 6:31
   4. To restore something that has been lost: 1 Kings 19:7-15
   5. To prepare us for what is to come: Luke 4:1
2. It is the holy Spirit that leads us into the desert and it is he who will lead us out! Luke 4:14

**Reflection**

It has been said that as a Christian you are either in a desert, have just left one or about to go into one – what is your experience?

Can you think a desert experience you have been in?

* What did it feel like?
* How long did it last?
* How did you leave it?

Do you think you are in a desert right now?

* Can you identify why you are there?
* How is it affecting you?

David’s experience was to praise him while in the desert, are you able to do the same?

* Is your soul satisfied
* Does your mouth offer praise with joyful lips?
* Do you meditate on Him in the ‘night watches’?