



LARGE GROUP FACILITATOR GUIDE

The Land Between – Jeff Manion

Message length 40:06 minutes

Goal – For Leaders to Trust God to use the Land Between as Fertile Soil for Transformational Growth

Session Details

This session will touch people deeply. Work with your producer for special programming and be prepared to respond appropriately to what is happening in the room, allowing space for the Holy Spirit, at the conclusion of the talk.

Speaker Introduction

Jeff Manion has served as the Senior Pastor of Ada Bible Church in Grand Rapids, Michigan for over 25 years. Under Jeff’s leadership, the church has grown from 50 people to over 6,000 attendees. In 2009, Ada Bible was listed by *Outreach Magazine* as one of America’s largest and fastest-growing churches.

A gifted Bible teacher, Jeff is known for his passion for communicating the Scriptures in a clear and relevant way.

Author of the newly released book, *The Land Between*, Jeff shares biblical insights into God’s work in our souls during times of difficult transition.

Message Beginning

“What a privilege to be able to open the scriptures together. Today it’s just my honor to speak to those of you here, also around America, and Canada, and those of you in our international locations. My hope is that God would free me to open my heart and that God would open your heart to be able to receive. May our gracious God who redeems all things give us the capacity today to open our hands to release those things which we have hung onto for way too long and in that process to receive the good gifts that He has to give. And today we get to talk about the land between. I’m going to describe it, but many of you know it very, very, very well. So let me, let me describe to you the land, the land between. ”

Message End

END: “Trust evicts complaint. They are simply incompatible roommates. What I’m saying today is that, that space in your life that you most resent is the very soil where God wants to produce the crop we so desperately desire. The land between, the space that we hate is the very soil where God does some of his richest and deepest work. And so may God bless you in the land between. May you guard your heart. May trust grow. May our gracious God who knows what we need and provides it when we need it, our God who redeems all things, may He restore your laughter. May He increase your joy. May you find Him present and good in the land between. God bless you.”

NOTE: You will have 2-5 minutes to set-up the process question / time. People should be given 10-30 minutes to work through the questions, wrestle with ideas and begin taking action steps. The times given below are suggestions. You will need to work with your Producer to determine exact times for your event.

2:00 Facilitation – *How will you challenge people to take action? Help people connect, reflect, interact. What were the new ideas, what moved your heart, what was the great story, where did the Holy Spirit whisper?*

FACILITATOR – Enter into a time of reflection and Prayer

The wilderness, the land between is fertile ground for transformational growth. Jesus desires to redeem all things, nothing goes wasted. Your decisions in this time will determine your future – your faith can either be strengthened, or die.

INDIVIDUAL

Some of you are passing through a season of prolong waiting, confusion or pain, more than anything, your Father wants to be trusted. Perhaps the most powerful prayer you can offer are the three words, “I trust you.” Could it be that not only is this the prayer God most desires to hear, but the prayer that your heart most desperately desires to pray?

But...

Some of you are experiencing God’s loving hand of discipline, know that He desires this correction to return your heart to Him. Take some time to write out a confession and to renew your commitment to God.

- Individually, take some time to meditate on and pray these words: “I trust you.” Then, record any whispers you may have from God during your prayer.

Jeff encouraged us to guard your heart? The desert is fertile ground for complaint. Is it possible your journey through the wilderness has resulted in a resentful or embittered spirit against God? If so, perhaps you sense God’s corrective hand of discipline in your life. In the book of Proverbs, we read:

*My son, do not reject the discipline of the LORD
Or loathe His reproof,
For who the LORD loves He reproves,
Even as a father corrects the son in who he delights.
–Prov. 3:11-12*

- Search your heart and spend the next few minutes journaling your thoughts and feelings.

Special Music (work with your Producer)

8:00 Process Time – *Give people time to process and interact – don't be afraid to allow space for people to work. Close the session as you see appropriate and then hand-off to the Host.*