



WOLVES

"A mountain with a wolf on it stands a little taller." - Edward Hoagland

If a Wolf can change the course of a River, imagine what you could change For Christ.

Included in this article is a link to a video that explains how the impact of wolves to Yellowstone National park changed not only the eco-system, but also changed the rivers that run through the National Park. I encourage you to view this video, it is only four and a half minutes long and is definitely worth the watch. It describes how the introduction of wolves to the park has impacted the eco-system, which to the surprise of scientists, has changed how the rivers behave within the park. It is a beautiful example of God's design at work. The wolves, being top predators, impacted the deer and elk population which led to a chain reaction at every level of the eco-system within the park. They created a ripple effect that surprisingly brought new life to the valley floor. Less grazing by the deer and elk herd resulted in forestation along the banks of the river. This forestation led to an increase in the bear, beaver, field mice and prairie dog population. The increased population of field mice and prairie dogs led to an influx of predatory birds such as the Bald Eagle. All this to say that as a result, the banks of the river became more stable and teeming with life. Stable banks meant less meandering of the river. Less meandering of the river led to more abundant life throughout the entire park.

Ezekiel 47 gives us a biblical perspective of this same type of transformative effect on the surroundings of our lives. The dream that is shared within the text talks about how the source of this great river begins as a trickle from spring of life which is found at the foot of the alter. The further away from the alter one gets the wider and deeper the river flows. As a result, the banks of the river team with life. How do I interpret this? Our Sunday services are a place to drink from the spring of life, a place to find a renewed hope and inspiration. As we are irrigated and released to flow from this building, we have the opportunity to meander our way through the path that God has set before us. Filled with the presence of Christ in our hearts, we have the opportunity to impact the landscapes of our lives by showing God's love and serving in His world. Engaging in a bible study or serving in ministry provides other opportunities to be replenished from the spring of life. Our engagement in and impact on small groups provides a living source of water that does have lasting effects on the landscapes of our lives. All alone, we will simply dry up, wither and die. However, in community, we have the potential to change families, communities and even the course of history.

Come to the source, be refreshed and filled. You just might be surprised as to how your landscape will change as a result of God's grace.