
A Year in the Word

A Year in the Word: Part 31

Small Group Questions: Waiting on the Lord

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Read

Isaiah 40:31; Habakkuk 1:12 and 2:1–3; Lamentations 3:25; and Revelation 11:18

Reflect

The prophet, Habakkuk, questions God about how wickedness seems to remain unpunished in Judah. After receiving his answer, Habakkuk wonders why God intends to use an ungodly nation to dispense the punishment. Habakkuk struggles with understanding God's ways, but eventually learns to trust him. Habakkuk declares that while he goes about his work, he will wait for God to reveal his will. How has waiting for God to do something specific in your life exposed your weaknesses, such as doubts, anger or bitterness? How has waiting strengthened you?

Pastor Darrin Patrick offers us insights into what we can do while waiting on the Lord:

1. Wait worshipfully.
 - a. Why is worship important? How does it shape and guide us?
 - b. When have you worshipped, at first, out of obedience, and then had it become much more?
 - c. Have you ever viewed a time of waiting as an invitation to worship?
2. Wait expectantly.
 - a. Are you in a challenging situation right now? What do you need to place in God's hands?
 - b. When have you wanted the answer more than you wanted God?
 - i. What might you be putting before God?
3. Wait actively.
 - a. Do you think of waiting as an active or passive activity?
 - i. When have you witnessed "waiting on God" used as an excuse to be passive?
 - b. What can you do to get your eyes off yourself, and serve outwardly?
 - c. Do you keep a journal? What would happen if you wrote down what you're learning while you're waiting in the gap? What impact might it have on you and others?
 - d. Do you believe God is active in your life? Explain.
4. Wait confidently.
 - a. How hard is it to trust God's timing? What personal experiences have helped you to trust God?
 - b. Do you trust God to deliver justice in his own way? Do you believe that justice delayed is not necessarily justice denied? What impact does it have on you?
 - c. What is the difference between believing in God, and believing (trusting) God?
 - d. What is your next step of obedience?
 - e. Which of the following prayers stands out most to you right now, and why?
 - Lord, help me to quiet my soul and to trust in your goodness to me.
 - Lord, help me to serve you and serve others as I wait.
 - Lord, help me think deeply about who you are and what you are doing.
 - Lord, help me to believe that you are just and will bring justice.

Respond: Where is God leading you? How can your small group support you?