

DO NOT PASS: The Challenge of Waiting

Road Signs. . .For Life – Part 7

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“But God’s not finished. He’s waiting around to be gracious to you. He’s gathering strength to show mercy to you. God takes the time to do everything right – everything. Those who wait around for him are the lucky ones.”

Isaiah 30:18 (Msg)

I. Why does God have us wait?

1. God has us wait to _____.

“A man’s wisdom gives him patience..” Proverbs 19:11a (NIV)

“For it is God who works in you to will and to act according to His good purpose.” Phillipians 2:13 (NIV)

2. God has us wait to _____.

“Don’t become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You’ll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you.” Romans 12:2 (Msg)

3. God has us wait _____.

“God, the Master, the Holy of Israel, has this solemn counsel: Your salvation requires you to turn back to me and stop your silly efforts to save yourselves. Your strength will come from settling down in complete dependence on me – The very thing you’ve been unwilling to do.” Isaiah 30:15 (Msg)

“Let not your hearts be troubled. Trust in God: trust in me also.”

John 14:1 (CEV)

Nehemiah 1-2

II. What Should We Do While We Wait?

1. We should _____.

“O Lord, I beseech You, may Your ear be attentive to the prayer of Your servant and the prayer of Your servants who delight to revere Your name, and make Your servant successful today and grant him compassion before this man.” Nehemiah 1:11 (NASB)

- We should pray for _____.

- We should pray for _____.

2. We should _____.

“GOD’s plan for the world stands up, all his designs are made to last.”

Psalms 33:11 (Msg)

“We plan the way we want to live, but only GOD makes us able to live it.”

Proverbs 16:9 (Msg)

3. We should _____.

“Then he told them this story: The farm of a certain rich man produced a terrific crop. He talked to himself: ‘What can I do? My barn isn’t big enough for this harvest.’ Then he said, ‘Here’s what I’ll do: I’ll tear down my barns and build bigger ones. Then I’ll gather in all my grain and goods, and I’ll say to myself, Self, you’ve done well! You’ve got it made and can now retire. Take it easy and have the time of your life!’ Just then God showed up and said, ‘Fool! Tonight you die. And your barnful of goods—who gets it?’ That’s what happens when you fill your barn with Self and not with God.”

Luke 12:16-21 (Msg)

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.”

Proverbs 3:5-6 (NIV)

4. We should _____.

“And I said to the king, “If it please the king, let letters be given me for the governors of the provinces beyond the River, that they may allow me to pass through until I come to Judah, and a letter to Asaph the keeper of the king’s forest, that he may give me timber to make beams for the gates of the fortress which is by the temple, for the wall of the city and for the house to which I will go.” And the king granted them to me because the good hand of my God was on me.”

Nehemiah 2:7-8 (NASB)

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