

COMFORT IN WAITING ON GOD

**THE LORD IS GOOD TO THOSE WHO
WAIT FOR HIM. TO THE SOUL WHO
SEEKS HIM. LAM. 3:25**

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- Lam. 3:26-It is good that one should hope and wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord.
- Wait quietly so you can hear Him when He speaks for your heart.
- It is very difficult to hear when we are distracted. (ex. have you ever tried to listen to 2 people at one time. We usually miss the message)

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- What does it mean to you to wait on the Lord?

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- Waiting means
- “wait” in the sense of waiting on the Lord is the Hebrew *qavah*.
- *Qavah* means (1) “to bind together” (perhaps by twisting strands as in making a rope), (2) “look patiently,” (3) “tarry or wait,” and (4) “hope, expect, look eagerly.”
- Wait can also mean to be silent.

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- The two different ways we can wait
- **Passive Waiting**- We give up quickly. We start off well then get impatient and give in. If you faint in the day of adversity your strength is small.
- When we think of waiting, we might envision just sitting back, not doing much of anything, just waiting for something to happen. (Passive Waiting)
- **Active Waiting**-Involves seeking God, reading the Word of God, hoping and expecting God to move.

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- As to **activity**, waiting involves three things:
- (1) Things we do—doing the right things.
- (2) Things we are not to do—refraining from the wrong things.
- (3) Things that happen to us, in us, and for us in the process of biblical waiting.
- Perhaps one of the most difficult aspects of waiting is learning to hold the negative and the positive parts of waiting in proper balance.

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- What is the hardest part of waiting?

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What are some things we must do as we wait:

Waiting Involves Taking Action at the Right Time

- There is a time to plow, a time to sow, and a time to reap, but they are never done all together or at the same time.
- Waiting on the Lord is like that. God is in the business of growing a spiritual harvest in our lives, but this takes time and our cooperation in doing the right things at the right time.



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What are some things we must do as we wait:

- **Waiting Involves Seeking the Lord** (Lam. 3:25)
- **Time in the Word** studying, seeking answers, and claiming God's promises;
- **Time in prayer** praying about the issues, praying for wisdom and discernment;
- **Time meditating** on who God is, what He is wanting to do in us and through us, and on what we need to do by way of answers and direction.

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- Group Participation
- **Group #1**-Find and discuss stories about waiting from Genesis to Job and be ready to share 2 of the scriptures with group.
- **Group #2**-Find scriptures and discuss scriptures about waiting from Psalms-Malachi be ready to share 2 scriptures the scriptures.
- **Group #3**- Find and discuss stories about waiting from the New Testament and be ready to share 2 scriptures with the group.

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What are some things we must do as we wait:

Waiting Involves Resting in God's Timing

- We can't have it our way, all the time. His way and His thoughts are higher than ours.
- Waiting means resting in God's timing and activity while taking care of our responsibilities—the things we can do and should do as set forth in the Word of God.
- To rest and be still. This stands opposed to running ahead of the Lord and taking matters into our own hands and turning to our own human strategies.



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- What are some things we must do as we wait:

Waiting Means Trusting in God

- The essence of waiting is trust or faith in the nature and character of God.
- No one can wait on the Lord if he or she does not truly trust in God as the rock of their strength and refuge in all of life.
- Waiting means claiming God's promises by faith and resting in what God is doing in our lives so we can faithfully follow God's principles and keep His values, priorities, and pursuits.

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What are some things we must do as we wait:

- **Waiting Involves Taking the Right Action**
- As we rest in God's timing, goodness, and eternal purposes, taking the right actions includes avoiding the negatives like:
- Getting angry, complaining, giving in, being anxious, worried, fearful.
- But waiting on the Lord also means doing the things we can and should without panic or running ahead of Him.

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What are some things we must do as we wait:

- **Waiting Involves Learning to be Content with God's Provision and Timing**
- To wait on the Lord means to be content and patient because we are clinging to God and resting in His love and wisdom.
- Content can be difficult, it takes constant renewal in the Word, fellowship with the Lord, and growth through struggle to change.

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- When we fail to wait on God's counsel (i.e., fail to cling to Him through prayer and fellowship with Him in the Word by which we reflect on His love, faithfulness, purposes, and resources), we quickly not only lose our focus and forget who God is and what He has done,
- We begin to look to and depend on (a) the details of life, the things of the world like pleasure, position, power, and prestige, and (b) our strategies to get what we want or think we need for our happiness, security, and satisfaction.
- Wait on God, don't lose sight of His promises.

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- Bible Study
 - Comforting Others
 - I Thess. 5:12-15 & I Corin. 1:3-4

WAITING ON GOD

Reference:

Waiting on the Lord-Bible.org