

WORSHIP

SUGGESTED WORSHIP SONGS:

The Lord Reigns, You Are Lord, Our God is Able, Hear Us From Heaven

WELCOME

Pause. Sit down comfortably, close your eyes and relax while doing nothing for 3 minutes. Share to the group your experience during the 3-minute pause.

WORD

PSALM 27

¹³ *I would have despaired unless I had believed that I would see the goodness of the Lord In the land of the living.*

¹⁴ *Wait for the Lord; Be strong and let your heart take courage; Yes, wait for the Lord.*

WAIT ON THE LORD

Waiting is part of life. In the Bible, we can see that God does not always move in a hurry in the lives of His people. Moses waited for 40 years, Joseph waited 13 years, Abraham was promised a son which he waited for 25 years, Jacob waited for 20 years, David waited for many years before he became king. Waiting is important and anything worthwhile is worth waiting.

The word “wait” comes from the Hebrew word “*qavah*” which is a description of binding together like a rope. The idea of waiting on the Lord is to be bound together with Him, being united with Him, clinging and committing our lives to Him. The object of our waiting is God. Without God we find no reason why we must wait. The context of waiting on the Lord rests on who God is.

The key to waiting on the Lord is to expectantly look for His goodness and expect what He is going to do in our life even when the waiting is long (**Psalm 27:1–2, 5–6**).

WHY WAIT ON THE LORD

God wants us to wait for His best. God’s best is God’s will done in God’s way and in God’s time. God’s best is not the answer to what we are waiting for. God’s best is God Himself.

Waiting is part of all of God’s creation and design. It takes time for a baby to become an adult, a seed to become a plant or a tree and a caterpillar to become a butterfly. Part of the process of transformation is the labor and struggle in the different life stages. When we understand this, we can find joy while waiting on the Lord and we will not merely be after the answers to our prayers.

Many times, God wants us changed first before He changes our circumstances. Next to trials and problems, waiting is the most effective tool God uses in developing our character. Therefore, waiting is not just something that we have to do until we get what we want. Waiting is an important part of the whole process of becoming who God wants us to be.

HOW TO WAIT ON THE LORD

Word of God – To wait on the Lord is to be anchored on His promises (**Psalm 130:5–6**). Therefore, we must know God’s Word and have hope that comes from His promises. We look forward to that hope even though we do not know what, how and when it will happen. When we wait we cling on to His promises.

Active Anticipation - To wait on the Lord is not to be passive, it is to be active. It should not be an excuse for doing nothing. God will do His part but we also need to do our part.

Intimacy - When we wait on the Lord, we must seek Him (**Lamentations 3:25–26**). As we grow deep in our intimacy with God, our waiting should not be after the promised blessings but should be after God Himself. God wants us to be developed in such a way that we will understand His presence is more important than His present. As we cultivate our intimacy with Him, we begin to realize that the gift is not as good as the Giver. Jesus is all that we need and the greatest treasure we will ever have.

Trust - Without faith and trust in God we cannot wait. To wait on the Lord means to trust Him. But we cannot trust God if we do not know Him. Therefore, the most important thing is for us to know the Lord. Once we know Him, we will be able to trust Him. Until we believe

WORD (cont'd)

that God is good, that He is going to be faithful with His promises, we cannot wait on the Lord.

DAVID WAITED ON THE LORD

When we wait on the Lord, know that God has His timetable. David was anointed when he was a young boy (1 Samuel 16:13), but he only became king at age 30 (2 Samuel 5:4-5). God allowed David to remain a shepherd boy even though he was already chosen to be king.

David's life is a picture of up and down stages before he became king of Israel. His life timeline consisted of victory, promotion, demotion, disappointments, tests of his character, opportunities and despair, before he finally became king over Israel (1 Samuel 24:4-7; 26:8-11; 1 Chronicles 10:13-14).

While David waited, God transformed his character to be ready to become king. It was during the downturns of his life when David wrote most of the psalms as the outflow of his intimacy with God. He delighted in the Lord more than in becoming a king, he rested in the Lord and waited patiently for Him (Psalm 37:4-5,7).

Anything worthwhile is worth waiting for. Our willingness to wait reveals the worth we place on what we are waiting for and our confidence in God's ability to bring about its fulfillment in His perfect time. Wait on the Lord and see the glory of God working on your behalf (Isaiah 64:4).

The folly of not waiting for God is that we forfeit the blessings of having God work for us. – John Piper

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

(Leaders: Please choose questions that are appropriate to the level of spiritual maturity of your members)

1. **Psalm of David.** What is David's encouragement found in Psalm 27:14?
2. **Don't Rush, Trust God.** What are your challenges in waiting? Share your story and your learning from it.
3. **God is God's Best.** How long have you been waiting for something? How can you turn your waiting into delighting in the presence of the Lord (the Giver) more than your desired present (gift) from Him?

WORKS

OBEDIENCE-BASED BIBLE STUDY (OBBS)

Waiting is anchored on God's promises. Write your OBBS for God's promise from the scripture below:

GOD'S WORD

Isaiah 40:31

"Yet those who wait for the LORD will gain new strength; they will mount up with wings like eagles, they will run and not get tired, they will walk and not become weary."

MY WORD (Your reflection on God's Word)

I WILL (Your specific action plan for this week)

WEEKLY PRAYER POINTS

I. Thanksgiving

- Worship God for who He is, what He has done, and what He will do in our lives

II. Country and the World

- Upright and moral governance of Public Servants and a God-centered Philippines
- Repentance and Salvation

III. Church

- That CCF Members would honor and love God and make disciples
- Elders, Pastors, Leaders, and Families
- Ministries and Churches worldwide

IV. CCF Facilities

- Worship and Training Center
- Prayer Mountain

V. Personal Concerns

- Deeper intimate relationship with God
- Righteous living
- Salvation of family and friends