



GOD'S WORK ASKS YOU TO WAIT AND PREPARE

MAY 5-11, 2024

CIRCLES for the week:

(Videos and links are included in CIRCLES to deepen understanding. Sign up for CIRCLES via text or email to the church.)

6 Monday: **VIDEO 2 Peter 1:2-10**
How are you exercising your faith, practicing the essentials to grow? Be mindful today!

7 Tuesday:
<https://www.bibleinfo.com/en/questions/armor-of-god>
Ephesians 6:10-20 How are you actively using your Armor?

8 Wednesday: **Colossians 1:9-11 and 3:12-17** What do we do while waiting in preparation for the next season God is bringing?

9 Thursday: **Psalm 66** Why is my praise and my declaration of God's greatness so crucial while I wait?

10 Friday: **Psalm 25** What is God teaching you right now? What is your active response? Personalize and pray each verse.

★ What insights did God give you through these CIRCLE activities? How did your relationship grow deeper with Him?

DIG DEEPER - review Sunday and dig deeper with discussion questions:

★ Any "take-aways" from Sunday's message? Did anything spark a question for you? Discuss with the group.

1. Do you think of waiting as an active or passive activity? Why? Discuss examples.
2. The word "WAIT" has nuances of meaning in Hebrew and Greek. All have elements of action in the waiting. Let's look at a few verses for each one and list the ACTION words for each type of waiting as you read the verses:

WAIT (Strong's Concordance* 6960): wait, hope, expect, look eagerly for -- **Psalm 25:5,20-22; Psalm 27:14; Psalm 40:1-5; Psalm 130:5**

WAIT (Strong's Concordance* 8104): keep, guard, observe, give heed, watch for -- **Psalm 59:9; Psalm 130:5-8**

WAIT (Strong's Concordance* 1828): be silent, be still, don't talk (with listening implied) -- **Psalm 4:4; Psalm 37:7; Psalm 62:5**

WAIT (Strong's Concordance* 7663): to wait, examine, probe, try (test)-- **Psalm 104:27, Psalm 119:166**

New Testament: to wait for with patience and trust -- **Romans 8:23-25; James 5:7-8**

- 3 In light of these verses, how does God meet us in the waiting?

Continued...



*Strong's Concordance: a Bible concordance, an index of every word in the King James Version with the Hebrew and Greek translation. BlueLetterBIBLE.org is a great online resource for this.

Discussion questions continued...

4. Consider how waiting implies “listening to God.” Look at **Proverbs 8:32-35**. He is there at the gate when the Lord comes out, like a servant who is reporting for duty. One reason that many of us are stressed is that we are frantically doing things God never assigned us to do. We haven’t really been listening to God or waiting upon the Lord. What is your habit of listening to the Lord like?
5. How can we GROW in listening to the Lord to know what HE wants us to do? Discuss this as it applies to us individually. Discuss how this applies to our church as a whole.
6. REVIEW our **Church’s VALUES**, the “Equipping Process Essentials” of growing in the LORD:
 - **BE in His Presence** – Discipleship (growing in Jesus), prayer, Bible study with life application
 - **HE is the focus** – Living a life and mindset of worship and focus on Jesus every day.
 - **WE need each other** – Fellowship, accountability, support, encouragement
 - **DO His work His way** – Service, building up the Church family, using our spiritual gifts.
 - **GO** – Missions, sharing the Good News of what God is doing to those around us.
7. Discuss how these apply to ME as an individual? How do I make these a part of my every day?
8. How do we apply these to our Church body as a group? How do we grow in these together?

PRAY and LIVE IT OUT – Are you spending time daily listening to God’s direction? Do you have the mindset of being God’s servant “reporting for duty”?

Ask the Holy Spirit to help you be active in your WAITING: to give heed to what He has already said, to be silent and listen, to analyze your schedule, to wait patiently and trusting Him. Are you doing what HE has asked you to do while you are waiting for further instructions? OR are you going forward in your own strength and direction?

Miss a Sunday? Watch the service at www.paradisecma.org or go to our Facebook page “Paradise Alliance Church.” For daily devotional texts, text (833)306-2345 and type CIRCLES.