

Study Guide
In Transit (06/23/24)
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Key verse for this message:

And we desire that each one of you show the same diligence to the full assurance of hope until the end, that you do not become sluggish, but imitate those who through faith and patience inherit the promises.

Hebrews 6:11-12 (NKJV)

What is one thing that you have been praying for God to send you?

On the cross, Jesus paid for our “breakthrough” – we have everything we need, but it is “in transit”.

Receiving by faith is taught frequently within Christian circles, but we don’t always understand faith properly – we cannot **find** the promise until we **bind** our *faith* with *patience*.

What are some things you’ve been taught (or heard) about praying in faith?

Do you always instantly receive everything that you pray for in faith?

Have you ever felt like that thing you’ve been praying for has been “delayed in transit”?

It is important for us to remember this truth:

God not only *allows* “divine delays” when it comes to our prayer; God often *initiates* divine delays.

James 1:2-4 (NKJV)

My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

We are taught two truths by this passage:

1. God *develops* what we **need** by *making us wait* for what we **want**.
2. God cares more about our **development** than He cares about our **demands**.

The story of Joseph gives us a good example of this truth in application.

The entire story of Joseph can be read in Genesis chapters 37-50.

After reading the story of Joseph in Genesis 37-50, consider the following questions:

1. **Why didn't God give the king the dream the night that Joseph was released? (see Genesis 40:1-14; Genesis 40:21; Genesis 41:1; Genesis 41:9-16)**
2. **Why would God keep Joseph in the prison two years after he asked the chief cupbearer to remember him? (see Genesis 40:20-23)**

The pit and the prison prepared Joseph for the palace – Joseph learned patience in the pit and prison so he would already have patience when he arrived in the palace.

“Since Joseph was governor of all Egypt and in charge of selling grain to all the people, it was to him that his brothers came. When they arrived, they bowed before him with their faces to the ground” (Genesis 42:6, NLT). – The dream has come true

“‘Please, come closer,’ he said to them. So they came closer. And he said again, ‘I am Joseph, your brother, whom you sold into slavery in Egypt. But don't be upset, and don't be angry with yourselves for selling me to this place. It was God who sent me here ahead of you to preserve your lives’” (Genesis 45:4-5, NLT).

Another good example of faith and patience is found in David (**David's story can be read in 1 & 2 Samuel**). He was anointed at a young age, and it took 15 years for him to finally be crowned king – Before God can do something great *through* us, He wants to first do something great *in* us.

Read Colossians 4:2 and 1 Corinthians 10:10-11.

When God initiates divine delays in your life, are you full of thanks or full of complaints?

Why is it important to be patient when God initiates a divine delay in your life?

What was it that kept delaying the Israelites' journey to the promised land?

“Even the youths shall faint and be weary, And the young men shall utterly fall, But those who wait on the Lord Shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint” (Isaiah 40:30-31, NKJV).

“And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, ‘which,’ He said, ‘you have heard from Me; for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now’” (Acts 1:4-5, NKJV). – **the Apostles had to wait for the gift Jesus purchased (the Holy Spirit).**

Patience is an intentional, spiritual exercise. When we allow God to accomplish what He wants to do in us, then we will receive what we want God to do for us.