

IN THE WAITING

Acts 1:12–26

Opening Thought

Waiting is hard.

It exposes our desire for control, our discomfort with silence, and our tendency to confuse movement with faithfulness.

“Hope delayed makes the heart sick...” — Proverbs 13:12 (CSB)

Before the Spirit comes in power, Luke shows us the **posture of a people who trust God enough not to run ahead of Him.**

Four Postures of Faithful Waiting

1. In the waiting, we continue to obey what Jesus has already said

- The disciples returned to Jerusalem just as Jesus commanded
- Waiting was not inactivity—it was obedience
- Faithfulness is not rushing ahead of God, but trusting His timing

Key Truth:

Waiting is not a pause on obedience. Waiting *is* obedience.

Scripture Reflections:

- Psalm 37:7
- Lamentations 3:25
- Isaiah 28:16

Reflection:

- Where am I tempted to move ahead of God instead of trusting Him?
-

2. In the waiting, we remain devoted to prayer—not productivity

- Before Pentecost power, there was persistent prayer
- Prayer wasn't something they did *while* waiting—it was *how* they waited
- Prayer forms us while we wait for God to act

Key Truth:

Prayer is not weakness—it is dependence.

Scripture Reflections:

- Acts 1:14
- Romans 12:12
- Philippians 4:6–7

Reflection:

- When I don't know what to do next, where do I turn first?
- Do I drift toward prayer—or toward control?

3. In the waiting, we stay rooted in Scripture so we don't follow the wrong voice

- Peter leads from Scripture, not speculation
- Waiting seasons are loud with competing voices
- God's Word anchors us when pressure speaks the loudest

Key Truth:

If Scripture is not shaping us, another voice will.

Scripture Reflections:

- Acts 1:16
- Joshua 1:8
- Hebrews 4:12

Reflection:

- What voices are shaping my decisions right now?
 - Am I letting Scripture form my desires—or just support them?
-

4. In the waiting, we stay close to Jesus—abiding in His presence

- The disciples stayed together, prayerful, and near to Jesus
- Waiting tests intimacy, not just obedience
- Presence matters more than progress

Key Truth:

Abiding is choosing relationship over results.

Scripture Reflections:

- John 15:4–5
- James 4:8
- Matthew 28:20

Reflection:

- In this season, am I staying close to Jesus—or just staying busy?
- If nothing changed right away, would His presence still be enough?

Why This Matters

Waiting is not neutral.

Waiting reveals:

- What we trust
- Which voice we follow
- Whether we believe God’s presence is enough

Grounding Truth:

We are not waiting on a God who hesitates to act.

- Romans 5:8
- Galatians 4:4

God moved toward us at the right time—and He will not abandon us in our waiting.

Closing Truth

Waiting with Jesus is never wasted— because being in His presence is always purposeful.