

HIGHER AIM WITH DR. CURT DODD

The Power Of Waiting

Heroes Of The Faith | Part 4 | Hebrews 11:17-20

INTRODUCTION

It is one of the hardest parts of the Christian life: waiting. In a world that values speed and efficiency, God often teaches His children a different lesson. Moses had a passion to free his people, but he had to wait 40 years in the desert until he was ready. The Apostle Paul, after his dramatic conversion, spent seven years in a period of discipleship before his ministry began. The Bible speaks of waiting on God over 100 times, signaling its importance in our spiritual journey.

The life of Isaac is a textbook study in waiting. Just as his parents had to wait for his birth, Isaac's entire life seemed to move from one waiting moment to the next. His story, highlighted in *Hebrews 11*, teaches us that waiting is not a passive action, a frustrating time spent in neutral. Instead, as we will see, it is a dynamic posture of hope, designed by God to deepen our faith and draw us closer to Him.

KEY POINTS

1. God Provides For Those Who Wait On Him

When Abraham took Isaac to Mount Moriah to sacrifice him, Isaac asked a simple, profound question: "Where is the lamb for the burnt offering?" Abraham's faithful reply, "God himself will provide," is the heart of Jehovah Jireh. Isaac learned firsthand, at the most traumatic moment of his life, that God is a provider. This experience taught him to trust God, not man, for his deliverance. Many of us equate God with our earthly fathers, but Isaac's life teaches us to anchor our trust in our perfect Heavenly Father, who never fails. When we are waiting for God's provision, it is okay to ask questions. But we must also trust that even when His answer is "no" or "wait," He is working for our ultimate good.

2. God Directs The Path Of Those Who Wait On Him

Fear often causes us to take matters into our own hands. Just as his father Abraham did, Isaac lied about his wife Rebekah being his sister out of fear. This repeated sin shows how easily we can fall into generational patterns. However, God's plan is not thwarted by our failures. The Christian life is a journey of learning to trust God's love and protection, which drives out all fear. This is especially true in our families. Isaac blessed both Jacob and Esau regarding their future. He learned he could not control his children, but he could love them and entrust them to God. We are called to do the same: to bless our children and pray for them, but to take our hands off and trust God to direct their story.

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3. God Has A Place For Those Who Wait On Him

Isaac lived to be 180 years old, but he never saw the complete fulfillment of God's promise to Abraham. He never saw the great nation that would come from his lineage. Yet, he died "old and full of years," a man who was part of a divine story far bigger than himself. His life reminds us that when we don't know what the future holds, we must make sure we know the One who shapes the future. You have a beginning and an end to your story, and every moment in between is an opportunity to trust God. Waiting is an essential part of that story, shaping us for the eternal place He has prepared for us.

The Hebrew word for "wait" is *qavah*, and it paints a powerful picture. It means to be wrapped, bound, or entangled together. Think of the description in *Ecclesiastes 4:12*: "A cord of three strands is not quickly broken." When God asks you to wait, He is not punishing you or ignoring you. He is inviting you to press into Him, to allow Him to weave your life so closely into His that your relationship deepens.

Waiting is not a passive state, but a power posture. It is in the waiting room of life that our spiritual maturity is forged. It is where we learn to hear His voice more clearly and trust His character more fully. The times we grow most are not when we have finally arrived at the answer, but in the moments we have had to wait on Him. If God is inviting you into a season of waiting, see it as an opportunity. Lean in, trust His process, and allow Him to bind you ever closer to Himself. This posture of hope will build your endurance and leave a legacy of quiet, enduring faithfulness for the next generation to see.

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QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

1. In what area of your life are you waiting for God's provision? How can the story of Isaac on Mount Moriah change your posture from anxiety to trust while you wait?
2. Dr. Dodd teaches that we must bless our children without trying to control them. What is one practical step you can take this week to release your children to God's sovereign plan for their lives, trusting His direction over your own?
3. Waiting is not a passive action, but an active posture of hope where God weaves us closer to Him. How can you intentionally 'press in' to your relationship with Christ during your current season of waiting, instead of just trying to get through it?
