

WHEN GOD SAYS NOT YET

Pastor T. Wayne Daniels | October 18, 2026 | Scripture readings: ESV

BIG IDEA

We can trust God's character, remain faithful, and continue worshiping while we wait for answers.

Start the conversation: What is something you have had to wait for? What made waiting difficult?

For younger children: Waiting can be hard because we cannot control when something happens. We can tell God how we feel and trust Him to help us make good choices while we wait.

1. BRING YOUR QUESTIONS TO GOD

Read: Habakkuk 1:2–3, 5.

Habakkuk spoke honestly to God about the wrong he saw and the answers he wanted. Faith makes room for honest questions while continuing to seek the Lord. God's response revealed that He was working beyond what Habakkuk could understand.

Discuss together

- What questions did Habakkuk bring to God?
- Why is it sometimes difficult to be honest with God about our feelings?
- What question or concern can our family bring to Him today?

Practice: Let each person finish: "God, I don't understand _____, but I'm bringing it to You."

2. TRUST HIS PRESENCE AND RECEIVE HIS STRENGTH

Read: Isaiah 40:27–31.

When we feel overlooked or tired, God has not become weak or weary. He gives strength to His people. Our circumstances may remain difficult while He renews our ability to keep going.

Discuss together

- What do these verses tell us about God's character?
- Where do you need strength right now?
- How might God use our family to encourage someone who feels weary?

Practice: Pray for one another by name, asking God for strength in a specific area.

3. REMAIN FAITHFUL IN THE WAITING

Read: Habakkuk 2:1–3.

God's message to Habakkuk had an appointed time. This passage teaches us to respect God's timing; it does not promise that every personal desire will happen exactly as we imagine. While we wait, we can continue obeying what God has already made clear.

Discuss together

- What is the difference between trusting God and insisting on our preferred outcome?
- What responsibilities can we continue fulfilling while we wait?
- How can we listen to God through Scripture and prayer this week?

Practice: Choose one act of faithfulness—serving someone, keeping a commitment, forgiving, or spending time in Scripture—and follow through this week.

4. KEEP WORSHIPING BEFORE THINGS CHANGE

Read: Habakkuk 3:17–19.

Habakkuk described painful loss, yet chose to rejoice in the Lord. His hope rested in the God of his salvation. We can acknowledge disappointment and still worship God for who He is.

Discuss together

- What was missing in Habakkuk's circumstances?
- What reasons did he still have to rejoice?
- What can our family thank God for today?

Practice: Have each person name one reason to thank God. Then worship together through a song or a prayer of gratitude.

FAMILY ACTIVITY: WAITING AND WORSHIP

Write your prayer requests on the left and truths about God's character on the right. Keep this page somewhere visible as a reminder to pray honestly and trust Him daily.

WHAT WE'RE WAITING FOR	WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT GOD

Examples of God's character: faithful, present, wise, loving, and strong.

THIS WEEK'S OBEDIENCE STEP

Each day, bring one concern to God, thank Him for one truth about His character, and take one faithful step of obedience.

FAMILY DECLARATION

"I may not know when, but I know Who!"

CLOSING PRAYER

Father, You know what our family is waiting for. Help us bring our questions to You honestly. Strengthen us when we grow tired, and teach us to trust Your wisdom and timing. Help us remain faithful and continue worshiping even before our circumstances change. Anchor our hope in who You are. In Jesus' name, amen.

OUR NEXT FAITHFUL STEP

This week, our family will:
