



Day 19

2 Corinthians 2:9

Waiting tests us. It tests our patience. It tests how badly we actually want something. It tests our attitude and resolve. Waiting in prayer administers 5 different tests in our lives.

First, it tests our identity. In the parable of the sower (Matthew 13), the seed that fell on good soil stayed connected to the source of its life and was not destroyed by trouble, persecution, the worries of this life, or the deceitfulness of wealth. When we deal with tough seasons as we should, it shows our true identity as Christians.

Next, it tests our faith. "These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world." (1 Peter 1:7).

Third, it tests our sense of purpose. As it says in James, "Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him" (James 1:12).

Next, it tests our obedience. "The reason I wrote you was to see if you would stand the test and be obedient in everything" (2 Corinthians 2:9).

Finally, it tests us to rely on God. "We were under great pressure, far beyond our ability to endure, so that we despaired even of life. Indeed, in our hearts we felt the sentence of death. But this happened that we might not rely on ourselves but on God, who raises the dead." (2 Corinthians 1:8-9).

Pray: "God, waiting is difficult, but we trust that You are using it to shape us. Test our faith, refine our obedience, and remind us who we are in You. When we reach the end of ourselves, teach us to rely fully on You and not lose heart while we wait."