



#2 WHEN GOD SEEMS LATE

Pastor Shannon Chapman

Oh, that you would prayers

Isaiah 64:1-4, **Oh, that you would** rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains would tremble before you! As when fire sets twigs ablaze and causes water to boil, come down to make your name known to your enemies and cause the nations to quake before you! For when you did awesome things that we did not expect, you came down, and the mountains trembled before you. Since ancient times no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who acts on behalf of those who wait for him.

- Our “Oh that you would prayers” puts us in a season of waiting, but **with God a waiting season is NEVER a wasted season.**

How Long Prayers

Habakkuk 1:2, **How long**, LORD, must I call for help, but you do not listen?

- Just because God is silent or even seems late doesn't mean God is not listening.

How God Uses a Waiting Season

1. To increase our faith

Matthew 8:23, Then he got into the boat and his disciples followed him. Suddenly a furious storm came up on the lake, so that the waves swept over the boat. But Jesus was sleeping.

- Have you ever been in a terrifying, disturbing situation and Jesus seems sound a sleep?

Matthew 8:26-27, He replied, ***“You of little faith,*** why are you so afraid?” Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the waves, and it was completely calm. The men were amazed and asked, “What kind of man is this? Even the winds and the waves obey him!”

- Many times it’s between our human deadlines and our heavenly deliverance when our faith grows the most.

2. To Increase our story

John 11:1,3 Now a man named Lazarus was sick. He was from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha...So the sisters sent word to Jesus, “Lord, the one you love is sick.

John 11:17, On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days.

- God’s delays are not God’s denials
- If God always met your expectations he would never have the opportunity to exceed them.

John 11:43-44, When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” The dead man came out,

- Mary and Martha wanted a healing...Jesus wanted a resurrection.

