

Sermon Discussion Questions

The Weight Of Waiting – Ryan Finney

29 March 2026

Sermon Text: Matthew 21:1-11

AGENDA

- People arrive, talk, snack, and icebreaker – 5 min
- Worship – 5-10 min
- Prayer/Ministry Time – 20-30 min
- Discussion Questions – 35-45 min

PRAYER/MINISTRY TIME (20-30 min)

Ask for prayer requests. Ask for specific needs of group members.

MESSAGE INTRODUCTION

In the message this week, **The Weight Of Waiting**, Ryan Finney asks us to consider that what if the waiting isn't working against us, but for us. Waiting has weight. It wears on us. It makes us question what we once believed about ourselves and about God. In this week's message, Ryan unpacks why silence isn't absence, why the delay isn't defeat, and why the season you're in might be the most important one yet. If you're in a "waiting" season, this message might change how you see everything you're walking through right now.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (35-45 min)

1. Last week you were asked to reflect on your own life to see if you were in a season of life like Madison described. Crushed. Pressed. Did you see that or feel that in your life? As you thought about it, did you ask the Holy Spirit for strength to remain in the crushing and pressing so your anointing would be poured out? Share with your group.
2. Share something that really stood out to you from Ryan's message this week.
3. The weight of waiting creates a gap. The place where we are waiting and longing for something to happen, and the heaviness that accompanies that waiting. What types of things start to happen in this gap? How do we handle this gap?
4. When something is poured out, it is to spill out everything. Not a measure, but all of it. What should this look like when we pour ourselves out to God? Do we find ourselves pouring out only a measure of ourselves or do we pour ourselves out completely, leaving nothing behind? What makes it hard to pour ourselves out completely?

Icebreakers

Pick one of the icebreaker questions below and go around in a circle (starting with the leader) and have everyone answer. (If you have new members or guests have each person introduce themselves.)

1. Do you decorate Easter eggs in your house?
2. Do you remember a special outfit you wore on Easter?
3. What is your secret for battling seasonal allergies?

5. What happens when we've been hoping for something so long that the hoping starts to become the problem? What might that look like in a practical sense? How do we keep that from happening?

6. Read Malachi 3:2-3. What is the purpose of the refiner's fire? Does this fire destroy the silver? What happens in the refining process? How might this apply to our own lives? What happens if we are never placed in the refiner's fire?

7. The weight of Jesus is never hurried. How is this at odds with our societal expectations of instant gratification? How can we embrace the weight of waiting and step into what God has for us?

APPLICATION

What is silence, is not absence? Maybe God is not far away but has actually drawn near to you. Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal the closeness of God to you in the weight of waiting.

COMING UP

To join a small group or find out more about what is going on, click on the NWC App, the website <https://nwckc.com>, or the New Wine Church Community Group Facebook page. Sermon study questions can also be found in all three locations.

Good Friday Service at New Wine Church, 3 April at 6:00pm, Antioch Middle School, 2100 NE 65th St, Gladstone, MO 64118.

Easter At New Wine Church, 5 April at 9:00 and 11:00, Antioch Middle School, 2100 NE 65th St, Gladstone, MO 64118. Invite your friends and family to attend with you as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord.

FINAL THOUGHT

**God doesn't clean what He plans to walk away from.
He refines what He plans to dwell in.**