

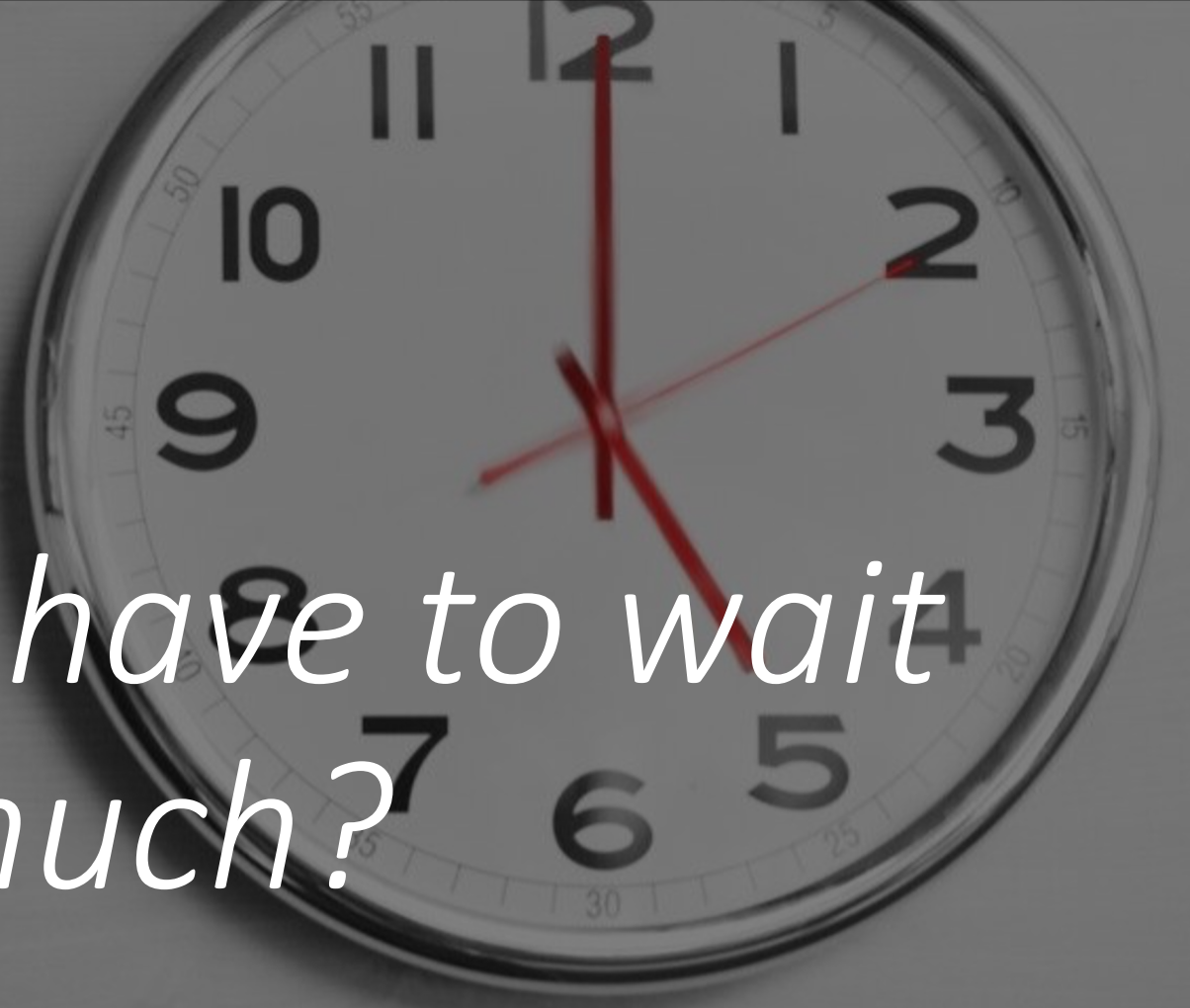
UNSTOPPABLE

A JOURNEY THROUGH THE BOOK OF ACTS





*Why do we have to wait
so much?*



A composite image with a dark, semi-transparent background. In the bottom-left corner, the face of a man with dark hair and glasses is visible, looking upwards and to the right. In the top-right corner, a round analog clock is shown, with its hands pointing to approximately 12:10. The clock face is white with black numbers and red hands. Centered over the image is the text "What if we viewed waiting as a good thing?" in a white, italicized serif font.

*What if we viewed waiting
as a good thing?*

Wait for the LORD; be strong and let your heart take courage; **wait** for the LORD!

(Psalm 27:14)

But they who **wait** for the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.

(Isaiah 40:31)

UNSTOPPABLE

Waiting & the Will of God

*Recognize that God's will has a what
and a when*

UNSTOPPABLE

[4] And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to **wait** for the promise of the Father, which, he said, “you heard from me; [5] for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.” [6] So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” [7] He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority.

(Acts 1:4–7 ESV)

UNSTOPPABLE

[4] And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, “you heard from me; [5] for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.” [6] So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” [7] He said to them, **“It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority.”**

(Acts 1:4–7 ESV)

UNSTOPPABLE

“God’s will always has a what and a when. But unfortunately, many of us have been taught that once we know what God’s will is, it’s sinful to wait. We’re supposed to respond immediately. So we don’t even think to ask the ‘when’ question.”

~ Larry Osborne

UNSTOPPABLE

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away.

(Acts 1:12 ESV)

UNSTOPPABLE

Waiting & the Will of God

*Waiting on God means we should be
busy in prayer*

UNSTOPPABLE

[13] And when they had entered, they went up to the upper room, where they were staying, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot and Judas the son of James. [14] All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.

(Acts 1:12-14 ESV)

UNSTOPPABLE

Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, **be constant** in prayer. (Romans 12:12 ESV)

Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving. At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison—that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak. (Colossians 4:2–4 ESV)

UNSTOPPABLE

[13] And when they had entered, they went up to the upper room, where they were staying, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot and Judas the son of James. [14] All these with one accord were **devoting themselves to prayer**, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.

(Acts 1:12-14 ESV)

UNSTOPPABLE

Waiting & the Will of God

We should look to God's Word to help us understand God's plan

UNSTOPPABLE

[15] In those days Peter stood up among the brothers (the company of persons was in all about 120) and said, [16] “Brothers, **the Scripture had to be fulfilled**, which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus. [17] For he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.” [18] (Now this man acquired a field with the reward of his wickedness, and falling headlong he burst open in the middle and all his bowels gushed out. (Acts 1:15–20 ESV)

UNSTOPPABLE

[19] And it became known to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the field was called in their own language Akeldama, that is, Field of Blood.) [20] **“For it is written in the Book of Psalms,** “May his camp become desolate, and let there be no one to dwell in it’; and “Let another take his office.’

(Acts 1:15–20 ESV)

UNSTOPPABLE

- Judas' betrayal was predicted (Ps. 41:9)
- Judas' tragic heritage predicted (Ps. 69:25)
- Judas' replacement predicted (Ps. 109:8).

UNSTOPPABLE

Waiting & the Will of God

*Waiting on God & discerning His will
includes using common sense to
narrow our options*

UNSTOPPABLE

[21] So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, [22] beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us— one of these men must become with us a witness to his resurrection.” [23] And they put forward two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also called Justus, and Matthias.

(Acts 1:21–23 ESV)

UNSTOPPABLE

Waiting & the Will of God

*Waiting on God requires us to trust
God to show us what only He can*

UNSTOPPABLE

[24] And they prayed and said, "You, Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which one of these two you have chosen [25] to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place." [26] And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias, and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.

(Acts 1:24–26 ESV)

UNSTOPPABLE

[24] And they prayed and said, **"You, Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which one of these two you have chosen** [25] to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place." [26] And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias, and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.

(Acts 1:24–26 ESV)

UNSTOPPABLE



Guidance From Holy Spirit

- The Holy Spirit uses **God's Word** to provide direction to us (Jn. 14:26; 16:12-14)
- The Holy Spirit may guide us through **conviction of right & wrong** (Jn. 16:8)
- The Holy Spirit may guide us through our **conscience** (Rom. 9:1)
- The Holy Spirit may provide guidance in **corporate worship** (Acts 13:1-3)

UNSTOPPABLE

Guidance From Holy Spirit

- The Holy Spirit may use **open or closed doors** to redirect us (Acts 16:7-8)
- The Holy Spirit may even use a **vision** to direct us (Acts 16:9-10)
- The Holy Spirit may guide us through **other believers** (Acts 15:28)

UNSTOPPABLE

UNSTOPPABLE

A JOURNEY THROUGH THE BOOK OF ACTS

