

## How Do We Wait On God?

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Waiting on God can feel like one of the hardest parts of following him. Whether we're anxious and worried about something urgent or we're waiting on an answer to something we've been praying about for a while, it can seem like an eternity waiting for an answer from him. If it seems like we're having to wait a long time on God, we can see from Scripture that we're in good company.

Abraham waited 25 years for his promised son Isaac to be born. Moses tended sheep for 40 years before God brought him back to Egypt to lead the Israelites out of slavery. David was anointed as king but had to wait years before taking the throne and had to run for his life multiple times. Jesus waited 30 years to begin his ministry. Paul waited 3 years to begin his ministry after meeting Jesus.

Since we aren't all-knowing like God, and can't see the full picture of history and time, it appears that waiting on him and his timing is a necessary part of our existence. But how do we do it?

Keep praying! Jesus told the parable of the man who annoyingly kept knocking on his neighbor's door at midnight, asking for a loaf of bread. The neighbor eventually opened the door. How much more will God listen to our consistent prayers.

Root yourself in a community of believers. It's easier to wait on God with others who can pray with you and encourage you.

Don't stop worshipping! Worship reminds us that God is greater than us and he is in control

Study stories of God's goodness from the Word and meditate on them. Study the promises God has made to us in his Word. Study God's power. He is able to do anything we are waiting on him to do.

Rest! He cares for us more than we can imagine and his timing is perfect.

Finally, be filled with his peace. Philippians 4:6-7 says, "Don't be anxious about anything but bring everything to him in prayer and thanksgiving." When we do this, he promises to fill our hearts and minds with his peace. What a gift!

Now, something to discuss in your group:

1. How have you waited on God in the past and how did God come through?
2. What are you waiting on God for currently?
3. What do you think is the hardest part of waiting?