

GOD'S WAITING ROOM

JEANNE MAYO

A. There are things that we can do right in our _____ that will prepare us, while we are waiting, for our _____.

1. Joy is not an _____ scheduled for tomorrow. Joy comes when you _____ all the way into today.
2. When we get too focused on the future, we can't enjoy today. Live all the way in now.
3. Joyful feelings are short-lived. You create your own parties.
4. Lamentations 3:25, *"The Lord is good to those who wait on Him."*
5. Galatians 6:9, *"Be not weary in well-doing, because you're going to reap in due season if you faint not."*
6. Some of the biggest answers to prayer have a longer spiritual "_____" periods.

B. Biblical examples of what to do in God's Waiting Room

1. The _____ of the paralytic by the pool of Bethesda. (John 5:1-11)
 - a. He was disappointed for 38 years.
 - b. Jesus told him, "What you are really wanting is not in the pool, what you are wanting is right _____."
 - c. Everything you want is already right around you.
2. Ruth looked inside her _____ while she was waiting and started serving her mother-in-law, Naomi.
 - a. It's easy to not see who we see every day.
 - Whatever becomes familiar often becomes hidden.
 - b. "You're rarely seeing what you are _____." – Helen Keller

- c. Celebrating someone or something in your present is often the key to your future.
 - d. Serving Naomi became Ruth's key to finding Boaz.
3. Joseph began to develop the traits in his own life that he _____ for the _____ God had promised him. He began to act like the future he saw in his heart.
- a. You act yourself into far more happiness than you'll ever feel yourself into.
 - b. While he was waiting for his future, he became qualified for it.
 - c. Joseph became a problem solver and a leader.
 - d. Problems often become God's doorway to your future.
4. Esther soaked in a bath of oil every day for over a year. She was being _____ by someone that knew what the king's preferences were.
- a. All of us can learn something from _____.
 - b. She wanted to grow and be mentored. Esther was teachable.
 - c. The day we think that we _____ most everything is the day that we start to _____ on the _____.

C. Closing Summary

1. The lame man beside the Pool of Bethesda realized what he wanted was right _____.
2. Ruth looked for someone in her inner circle that she could _____.
 - a. She knew that all she wanted in her future would be obtained by faithfulness in her present.
3. Joseph began to work on the skill set that was necessary for his _____ right where he was, even in prison.
 - a. Problems are doorways to your future.

4. Esther was milking her environment for _____.
 - a. She prioritized _____ while she was waiting.
5. Philippians 4:7, *"And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."*

Answers:

PRESENT; FUTURE; EMOTION; BURY YOURSELF; GESTATION; HEALING; WHERE YOU ARE; INNER RELATIONSHIP CIRCLE; LOOKING AT; NEEDED; FUTURE; MENTORED; EVERYONE; KNOW; DIE; INSIDE; WHERE HE WAS AT; SERVE; FUTURE DREAM; MENTORSHIP; TEACHABILITY