



Welcome!

SERIES: ANCHORS IN ADVENT

Today's Message: I'm Tired of Waiting

Dr. Lance D. Watson, Senior Pastor

PRAYER: Gracious God, who elevates our anticipation during Advent. We thank you now that we can expect you to disrupt the ordinary circumstances of our lives with good news. Help us to always have our hearts ready and to be alert for your announcements of grace and goodness. We pray this prayer in the name of Jesus. Amen.

ICEBREAKER: What are you most looking forward to this holiday season?

INTRODUCTION: When things don't go our way we typically respond with anger, doubt, or some sort of disappointment. In this message, we get to see how God works past our disappointment, and in the midst of our discouragement to bring about God's purpose. Even when things don't go our way, we can remain hopeful. Inside the tension between asking and receiving we learn some valuable lessons about how life works, and the hope Christmas brings.

SCRIPTURE: Read Luke 1:5-15 (NIV)

DISCUSSION:

1. What stood out in today's message? What's one thing you learned? What questions came to mind as you listened to the message today?
2. Elizabeth and Zechariah were prominent, godly leaders in their community but were unable to have a child. It is clear that their lack of children had not only been disappointing but was also perceived as a shameful and embarrassing thing in their culture. They had waited so long for a child, they gave up. Have you ever waited so long you just gave up?
3. Sometimes good, righteous people have struggles that are no fault of their own and are **certainly not** punishments from God. Why do you suppose so many people blame God or themselves when encountering disappointments or delays?
4. Zechariah and Elizabeth had to wait a very long time before the fulfillment of the desires of their heart. What does it look like for you to wait in a healthy way? How are you most likely to deal with delay in unhealthy ways?
5. What have you learned about God from your own times of delay? How can your past experience with delay help shape your future?

THE SAINT PAUL'S BAPTIST CHURCH
GROW | PRAY | SERVE



WWW.MYSPBC.ORG • 804.643.4000

Welcome!

SERIES: ANCHORS IN ADVENT

Today's Message: I'm Tired of Waiting

Dr. Lance D. Watson, Senior Pastor

6. Read through Zechariah's song (Luke 1:67-79), it seems like he used his experience not just to comfort himself, but also to speak to others about God rescuing his people. Christmas can be a tough time of year for people. Who do you know who needs some encouragement? Is there anything that you can do to speak hope into their fears and disappointments?

CHALLENGE: Take a moment to pray for each other in your group so that you might be renewed despite enduring delays.

SERVE: Encouragement, at its ideal, is speaking hope into someone's fears. Who needs that kind of encouragement from you? Can you write them a letter or an email? Text them? Call them? Is there a "first step" that we can take towards doing that right now?

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Take this time to share group announcements. Church wide and campus specific announcements can be found at www.myspbc.org. You can also "find, follow and like" our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/myspbc. Turn on your notifications.

CELEBRATIONS: Take this time to share praise reports (e.g. answered prayers, birthdays, anniversaries, promotions).

PRAYER REQUESTS AND PRAYER: Take this time to share prayer requests. Close with prayer.

THE SAINT PAUL'S BAPTIST CHURCH
GROW | PRAY | SERVE



WWW.MYSPBC.ORG • 804.643.4000

Welcome!

SERIES: ANCHORS IN ADVENT

Today's Message: I'm Tired of Waiting
Dr. Lance D. Watson, Senior Pastor

We Care!

NOTICE: PLEASE BE PATIENT AS WE GRADUALLY REOPEN OUR CAMPUSES IN THE SAFEST MANNER POSSIBLE. As a small group leader, we depend on you to show members that we care. Here's a list of resources to help you.

FOR PRAYER:

CALL: 804.463.2472

EMAIL: prayer@myspbc.org.

TO REQUEST A HOSPITAL VISIT:

CALL: 804.304.3890 (For Emergencies)

EMAIL: ecare@myspbc.org.

TO FIND A SUPPORT GROUP:

CALL: 804.643.6177

EMAIL: Barnabas@myspbc.org.

TO CONTACT MY LIFE STAGE PASTOR:

CALL: 804.643.4000 and Press 1 for the Dial By Name Directory

EMAIL:

Imagination (0-10): Vernita Williams: Vernita.Williams@myspbc.org

SMB (11-19): Martina Jones-Smith: Martina.Jones-Smith@myspbc.org

Dreamchasers (20-29): Juan Shackelford: juan.shackelford@myspbc.org

Aspire (30-39): Lance Watson, Jr.: lance.watsonjr@myspbc.org

Fusion (40-49): Michelle Townsend: michelle.townsend@myspbc.org

Encore (50-59): Jamie Duncan: Jamie.Duncan@myspbc.org

Prime Time (60-69): Maceo Freeman: maceo.freeman@myspbc.org

Refiners (70+): Roscoe Jones: roscoe.jones@myspbc.org

FOR COUNSELING:

CALL: 804.643.6177

EMAIL: Barnabas@myspbc.org

TO REQUEST FUNERAL SUPPORT:

CALL: 804.304.3890 (Pastor On Call)

EMAIL: ecare@myspbc.org.

TO REQUEST EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE:

CALL: 804.643.4000

EMAIL: emergencyassistance@myspbc.org.

GPS is a study guide based on the weekend message. The purpose of this guide is to assist small groups in study.
Previous GPS Guides are available online at www.myspbc.org.