



Can't Live Without It Week 5 – PATIENCE Spiritual Formation & Discussion Guide

We hope you'll use this guide to take the teaching from Sunday's service and reflect on it with a few friends or a group. If you have questions or want to talk more about how to take your next spiritual step, contact us at info@wschurch.org.

Scripture:

"Be still in the presence of the LORD, and wait patiently for him to act."

Psalm 37:7

"Wait patiently for the LORD. Be brave and courageous. Yes, wait patiently for the LORD."

Psalm 27:14

Reflection Questions:

- What is one thing you are waiting for and hoping to experience in your life? (It doesn't have to be something big! What comes to mind quickly?)
- What stood out to you from Sunday's service? How did you sense God encouraging and challenging you through the songs, the message, and being with others as part of the church? (The message's main points and scripture are listed below if it helps you think back.)
- How well do you wait? Are there times or places or people that you find yourself having difficulty being patient? List them/share them.
- Eddie shared, "One writer said waiting is difficult because we do not know if our waiting means 'not yet' or 'not ever.'" Have you ever wrestled with that question? When was that & what was it like to talk to God in that situation?
- In the message, Eddie walked through some key moments in the life of David in the Bible and how he had to wait to become king. Look over the Scriptures from the outline below that describe David being anointed (promised) that he would be king one day, being willing to face and kill Goliath alone, and seeing an opportunity to kill Saul while hiding from him. What stands out to you from these stories from David's season of waiting?

- “God never wastes a wait. Sometimes what happens as we wait is more important than what we are waiting to do.” As you think back on your life so far, is there a season of waiting that you now see how God was at work? What were some of the things God did *within you* during that time? Write out some highlights or share a bit out loud.
- “Here’s a pledge that is worth making: ‘God, I will serve you while I wait.’” Can you pause and consider praying that prayer? What will it mean to do that for you? (Get practical. Write it out or share it out loud.)
- Read Psalm 27:14. In the message, Eddie highlighted the phrase in the center: “Be brave and courageous.” “It doesn’t say we should take courage and run ahead of God or attempt to force God’s hand. The message is that it takes courage to wait on God. It takes courage to trust his plan. It takes courage to restrain your aggression. It takes courage to prefer God’s timing over your own.” How do you need to bravely and courageously wait on the Lord?
- Is there anything else from this teaching that you want to explore more?
- Take time to pray as you close your time of reflection or discussion, asking God to help you act on what he has asked you to do.

Looking for some ways to grow spiritually?

We have a new resource, the **Write it Down Journal**, which you can get at our Next Steps Area for a suggested donation of \$3 or access online at <https://www.wschurch.org/content/pdf/SpiritualJournal.pdf>. Writing things down is a simple spiritual practice that helps us pay attention to God and what he is teaching us.

Visit www.wschurch.org/resources to see additional tools and resources.

Message Main Points and Scripture:

- **Waiting**
- **Waiting is part of every God-directed life**
- Psalm 37:7 – “Be still in the presence of the LORD, and wait patiently for him to act.”
- **Abraham**
- 1 Samuel 16:12 – “This is the one – anoint him.”
- **God never wastes a wait**
- 1 Samuel 17:26 – “What will a man get for killing this Philistine and ending his defiance of Israel? Who is this pagan Philistine anyway, that he is allowed to defy the armies of the living God?”
- 1 Samuel 17:45 – “You come to me with sword, spear, and javelin, but I come to you in the name of the Lord of Heaven’s Armies—the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. Today the Lord will conquer you, and I will kill you and cut off your head. And then I will give the dead bodies of your men to the birds and wild animals, and the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel.”
- **“God, I will serve you while I wait.”**
- 1 Samuel 24:4 – “Now’s your opportunity!” David’s men whispered to him. “Today the LORD is telling you, ‘I will certainly put your enemy into your power, to do with as you wish.’” So David crept forward and cut off...
- “So David crept forward and cut off... a piece of the hem of Saul’s robe.”
- 1 Samuel 24:6 – “The Lord forbid that I should do this to my lord the king. I should not attack the Lord’s anointed one, for the Lord himself has chosen him.”
- **There are wrong ways to accomplish right things**
- Psalm 27:14 – “Wait patiently for the LORD. Be brave and courageous. Yes, wait patiently for the LORD.”