October Series:

God's Waiting Room

Lesson Three:

Prayerfully Waiting



“We do not survive spiritually if we do not learn to wait.”

Scripture Lesson:
Proverbs 13:12 (NLT)

Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but a dream fulfilled is a tree of life.

Deferred **means “to put off” or “drag out,” as in a long, drawn-out process.**

“When hope is crushed, the heart is crushed.” Proverbs 13:12 (GNT)

“Waiting is not about what you get at the end of the wait; it’s about what you become as you wait.”

God stands ready to use the fire of waiting to mold our faith, melt away our dross, and bring us out on the other side refined.

Waiting is not a bad thing, it is the place where we are blessed, where we learn, and where we grow into who God wants us to become.

Five Prayers to Give God While You Wait:

1. Lord, Give Me Strengthen to Wait Patiently.

“Teach us, O Lord, the disciplines of patience, for to wait is often harder than to work.”

Numbers 21:4-5, Then they journeyed from Mount Hor by the Way of the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; and the soul of the people became very discouraged on the way. And the people spoke against God and against Moses: “Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness?

Patience is the power to press on through difficulties, discouragements, and detours with a heart full of faith and a mouth full of praise.

“Sometimes, you just have to bow your head, say a prayer, and weather the storm.”

2. Lord, Awake My Soul While I Wait.

Psalm 118:24, This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Waiting can pressure us to live in two places at once.

Lamentations 3:22-23, It is of the **Lord's mercies** that we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is Thy faithfulness. Today, the heavens sing of His beauty.

Psalm 19:1, The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Today, God rehearses the story of his love.

Romans 5:8, But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Luke 9:23, Then He said to them all: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me.

Colossians 3:12-13, Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone.

3. Lord, Keep Me from Foolish Shortcuts.

Isaiah 30:15, “In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and in trust shall be your strength.”

“If you take shortcuts, you get cut short.”

Exodus 32:1, When the people saw that Moses was so long in coming down from the mountain, they gathered around Aaron and said, "Come, make us gods who will go before us. As for this fellow Moses who brought us up out of Egypt, we don't know what has happened to him."

I Samuel 13:8-10, He waited seven days, the time set by Samuel; but Samuel did not come to Gilgal, and Saul's men began to scatter. So, he said, "Bring me the burnt offering and the fellowship offerings." And Saul offered up the burnt offering. Just as he finished making the offering, Samuel arrived, and Saul went out to greet him.

4. Lord, Help Me Embrace the Future You Have for Me.

I Peter 2:9, You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.

Seasons of waiting train us to relinquish our role as the author of our own story and take up our role as a character in God's story.

I Corinthians 2:9, But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love Him"

5. Lord, Remind Me of What I am Waiting For.

Isaiah 25:9, “Behold, this is our God; we have waited for Him, that He might save us. This is the Lord; we have waited for Him.”

1. A New Heaven and New Earth

II Peter 3:13, But in keeping with His promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells.

2. A New Body

Romans 8:23, Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies.

3. Jesus' Return

Revelation 1:12-18, I turned around to see the voice that was speaking to me. And when I turned, I saw seven golden lampstands, and among the lampstands was someone like a son of man, dressed in a robe reaching down to his feet and with a golden sash around his chest. The hair on his head was white like wool, as white as snow, and his eyes were like blazing fire. His feet were like bronze glowing in a furnace, and his voice was like the sound of rushing waters.

In His right hand He held seven stars, and coming out of His mouth was a sharp, double-edged sword. His face was like the sun shining in all its brilliance. When I saw Him, I fell at His feet as though dead. Then He placed His right hand on me and said: "Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. I am the Living One; I was dead, and now look, I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades.

“Start with Jesus, stay with Jesus, end with Jesus.”