

Waiting on God

(Part Two)

3 variations of meaning to "waiting on God"			
Waiting <i>in</i> God	Devotional	Learning to be in God	<i>It is desirable, beneficial and possible to do all three</i>
Waiting <i>on</i> God	Serving	Doing something for God	
Waiting <i>for</i> God	Patience	Allowing God to do something	

Waiting on God

- To serve as a waiter or waitress
- To attend to, as a clerk or servant

Numbers 3:10 (KJS) And thou shalt appoint Aaron and his sons, and they shall **wait** on their priest's office:

The word wait in the Hebrew means to "give your attention to". It means to serve God. To wait on God means to do something for the kingdom.

Romans 12:7 (KJ) Or ministry, let us **wait** on our ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching;

Paul's Example:

Acts 12:25-4 And Barnabas and Saul returned from Jerusalem when they had fulfilled their ministry, and they also took with them John whose surname was Mark. 13:1 Now in the church that was at Antioch there were certain prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. 2 As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, "Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." 3 Then, having fasted and prayed, and laid hands on them, they sent them away. 4 So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went down to Seleucia, and from there they sailed to Cyprus.

This scripture is the crucial point in transition in his life where he had waited on God, waited in God and he waited for God.

Paul's fulfilled ministry (14 years before being sent out as an Apostle)

- Arabia (3 years) (Galatians 1:17): working, evangelizing, studying (preparation)
- Tarsus (10 years)
- Antioch (1 year) (Acts 12:25) 1(year)
 - Teacher
 - Prophet
- Delivered an offering to Jerusalem (Acts 11:30)
- Sent out (Acts 13:2)

1 Timothy 1:12 And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord who has enabled me, because He counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry,

Seek to be faithful (Rather than recognized or promoted)

Promotion & recognition follows faithfulness (Not the other way around)

2 Timothy 2:2 And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.

Faithfulness:

- Be faithful with your part (Focus on the talents you have, not on what you don't have)
- Be faithful in the seasons God leads you into.

The furtherance of your ministry is marked by your faithfulness in each season and step you take.

Part of my promotion is because I refused to quit.

"If you don't quit you will be a success" Lester Sumrall

Everybody has wanted to quit. If we did there would be no churches.

I know of one guy who felt called to be a pastor. He didn't become involved in any ministry he considered beneath his calling. Conclusion: He never became a pastor.

Work while you wait for - Working is part of waiting on the Lord

- Stop waiting for the "Big Things". Wherever you are at in you need to wait on the Lord – seek to be a part of the ministry.
- Don't get so hung up on a future grandiose position when you can put your hand to the plow right now.
- What you do now is ministry and will prepare you for what God has ahead for you. Preparation time is never wasted time.

How do you know when you have fulfilled a ministry and are ready to go on to something else?

Colossians 4:17 And say to Archippus, "Take heed to the ministry which you have received in the Lord, that you may fulfill it."

- The Work is completed. When Paul returned from Jerusalem the mission was accomplished.
- God specifically tells you it is time for a change.
- You have been faithful.
 - Have I been faithful to this ministry for the time allotted?
 - Has my heart been submitted to those in authority over me?
 - Am I leaving this ministry under negative circumstances?
 - Has my attitude been good?

I always wondered why people do things with a bad attitude, sloppy work ethic, miss assignments, chronically tardy, lack of commitment, and then justify it because they are unpaid volunteers.

Key to doing things well & with a good attitude:

Colossians 3:23-24 And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, 24 knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ.

