

"Wait!"

We live in a world of instant gratification:

Fast food
Easy credit
Quick travel

The faster things are the less we like to wait!

Check-out lines
Help call centers
Traffic jams

Christians have some really exciting new!

Jesus is alive
Salvation is free
Eternal life is available now

But Jesus told his disciples to wait:

Wait for the gift that was promised
Wait for the baptism with the Holy Spirit
Wait for the power to be witnesses

Waiting for the Lord is a necessary spiritual discipline:

Waiting for the Lord's goodness
Waiting for the Lord's justice
Waiting for the Lord's mercy
Waiting for the Lord's coming

Some important characteristics of waiting:

Waiting means patience
Waiting means perseverance
Waiting means availability

Some practical words to our graduates:

Insist on waiting for the right relationships
Persist in waiting for the right profession
Resist not waiting for renewed faith

When the early Christians waited... great things happened!

Acts 1:4-8

4 On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. 5 For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

6 So when they met together, they asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?"

7 He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. 8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Psalm 27:13-14

13 I am still confident of this: I will see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living.

14 Wait for the LORD; be strong and take heart and wait for the LORD.

Isaiah 30:18

18 Yet the LORD longs to be gracious to you; he rises to show you compassion. For the LORD is a God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for him!

Jude 20-21

20 But you, dear friends, build yourselves up in your most holy faith and pray in the Holy Spirit. 21 Keep yourselves in God's love as you wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to bring you to eternal life.

1 Corinthians 1:7-9

7 Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. 8 He will keep you strong to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 God, who has called you into fellowship with his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, is faithful. NIV

Sermon Notes

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www.middletownnaz.com