
Four Weeks: Waiting and Enduring

edited by Wendy Alsup

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Week 1

God preserved in His eternal word the cries of His children waiting on Him to move for them. He has not left you as an orphan to navigate your own season of unfulfilled longing. As you too wait for God to move for you, use these words from Scripture to give voice to your cry to God.

Day 1

Psalm 13

- 1 How long, O LORD? Will you forget me forever?
How long will you hide your face from me?
- 2 How long must I take counsel in my soul
and have sorrow in my heart all the day?
How long shall my enemy be exalted over me?
- 3 Consider and answer me, O LORD my God;
light up my eyes, lest I sleep the sleep of death,
- 4 lest my enemy say, "I have prevailed over him,"
lest my foes rejoice because I am shaken.
- 5 But I have trusted in your steadfast love;
my heart shall rejoice in your salvation.
- 6 I will sing to the LORD,
because he has dealt bountifully with me.

Day 2

Genesis 49:18

I wait for your salvation, O Lord.

Psalm 25:21

May integrity and uprightness preserve me, for I wait for you.

Psalm 27:14

Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!

Psalm 31:24

Be strong, and let your heart take courage, all you who wait for the Lord!

Day 3

Psalm 25

1 To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

2 O my God, in you I trust;

let me not be put to shame;

let not my enemies exult over me.

3 Indeed, none who wait for you shall be put to shame;

they shall be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

4 Make me to know your ways, O LORD;

teach me your paths.

5 Lead me in your truth and teach me,

for you are the God of my salvation;

for you I wait all the day long.

Day 4

Psalm 33:20

Our soul waits for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.

Psalm 37:7

Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him; fret not yourself over the one who prospers in his way, over the man who carries out evil devices!

Psalm 38:15

But for you, O Lord, do I wait; it is you, O Lord my God, who will answer.

Psalm 62:5

For God alone, O my soul, wait in silence, for my hope is from him.

Day 5

Psalm 40

- 1 I waited patiently for the LORD;
he inclined to me and heard my cry.
- 2 He drew me up from the pit of destruction,
out of the miry bog,
and set my feet upon a rock,
making my steps secure.
- 3 He put a new song in my mouth,
a song of praise to our God.
Many will see and fear,
and put their trust in the LORD.

Week 2

We can endure until God releases us from our burdens because God's steadfast love first endures for us.

Day 1

Psalm 40

- 11 As for you, O LORD, you will not restrain
your mercy from me;
your steadfast love and your faithfulness will
ever preserve me!
- 12 For evils have encompassed me
beyond number;
my iniquities have overtaken me,
and I cannot see;
they are more than the hairs of my head;
my heart fails me.
- 13 Be pleased, O LORD, to deliver me!
O LORD, make haste to help me!

Day 2

Psalm 117:2

For great is his steadfast love toward us,
and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever.
Praise the Lord!

Psalm 118

- 1 Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his
steadfast love endures forever!
- 2 Let Israel say, "His steadfast love endures forever."
- 3 Let the house of Aaron say, "His steadfast love
endures forever."
- 4 Let those who fear the Lord say, "His steadfast love
endures forever."

Day 3

Psalm 69

- 1 Save me, O God!
For the waters have come up to my neck.
- 2 I sink in deep mire,
where there is no foothold;
I have come into deep waters,
and the flood sweeps over me.
- 3 I am weary with my crying out;
my throat is parched.
My eyes grow dim
with waiting for my God.

...

- 13 But as for me, my prayer is to you, O LORD.
At an acceptable time, O God,
in the abundance of your steadfast love answer me
in your saving faithfulness.
- 14 Deliver me from sinking in the mire;
let me be delivered from my enemies
and from the deep waters.
- 15 Let not the flood sweep over me,
or the deep swallow me up,
or the pit close its mouth over me.

Day 4

Psalm 118:29

Oh give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!

Romans 8:38-39

For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Day 5

Psalm 69

16 Answer me, O LORD, for your steadfast love is good;

according to your abundant mercy, turn to me.

17 Hide not your face from your servant;

for I am in distress; make haste to answer me.

18 Draw near to my soul, redeem me;

ransom me because of my enemies!

...

30 I will praise the name of God with a song;

I will magnify him with thanksgiving.

31 This will please the LORD more than an ox

or a bull with horns and hoofs.

32 When the humble see it they will be glad;

you who seek God, let your hearts revive.

33 For the LORD hears the needy

and does not despise his own people who are prisoners.

Week 3

Knowing the character of our God gives us the patience to persevere in hard seasons of waiting. He is gracious and loves to show mercy. He is just and blesses those who wait for Him.

Day 1

Isaiah 25:9

It will be said on that day, “Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us. This is the Lord; we have waited for him; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.”

Isaiah 26:8

In the path of your judgments, O Lord, we wait for you; your name and remembrance are the desire of our soul.

Isaiah 30:18

Therefore the Lord waits to be gracious to you, and therefore he exalts himself to show mercy to you. For the Lord is a God of justice; blessed are all those who wait for him.

Day 2

Isaiah 40

- 27 Why do you say, O Jacob,
and speak, O Israel,
“My way is hidden from the LORD,
and my right is disregarded by my God”?
- 28 Have you not known? Have you not heard?
The LORD is the everlasting God,
the Creator of the ends of the earth.
He does not faint or grow weary;
his understanding is unsearchable.
- 29 He gives power to the faint,
and to him who has no might he increases
strength.
- 30 Even youths shall faint and be weary,
and young men shall fall exhausted;
- 31 but they who wait for the LORD shall renew their
strength;
they shall mount up with wings like eagles;
they shall run and not be weary;
they shall walk and not faint.

Day 3

Isaiah 64:4

From of old no one has heard or perceived by the ear, no eye has seen a God besides you, who acts for those who wait for him.

Lamentations 3:25-26

The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul who seeks him. It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord.

Hosea 12:6

“So you, by the help of your God, return, hold fast to love and justice, and wait continually for your God.”

Day 4

Psalm 130

5 I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word I
hope;

6 my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for
the morning,

more than watchmen for the morning.

Proverbs 20:22

Do not say, "I will repay evil"; wait for the Lord, and
he will deliver you.

Isaiah 8:17

I will wait for the Lord, who is hiding his face from
the house of Jacob, and I will hope in him.

Day 5

Psalm 40

- 14 Let those be put to shame and disappointed
altogether
who seek to snatch away my life;
let those be turned back and brought to dishonor
who delight in my hurt!
- 15 Let those be appalled because of their shame
who say to me, "Aha, Aha!"
- 16 But may all who seek you
rejoice and be glad in you;
may those who love your salvation
say continually, "Great is the LORD!"
- 17 As for me, I am poor and needy,
but the Lord takes thought for me.
You are my help and my deliverer;
do not delay, O my God!

Week 4

Believers in the early Church endured much hardship. God met them and supernaturally helped them as they struggled with both external persecution and internal sin and doubt. He walks with us the same way today.

Day 1

1 Corinthians 10

13 No temptation has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

Day 2

Hebrews 12

1 Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, 2 looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

3 Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.

Day 3

I Peter 2

19 For this is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrows while suffering unjustly. 20 For what credit is it if, when you sin and are beaten for it, you endure? But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God.

Day 4

Jude

20 But you, beloved, building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit,
21 keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life.

24 Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, 25 to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.

Day 5

Review this booklet and refresh yourself with verses that particularly stood out to you. Here are some principles from the verses in this booklet to reflect upon:

We can be strong and courageous even as we wait.

As we endure in our trials and struggles, God's steadfast love endures for us.

Nothing can separate us from the love of God.

God is just and merciful. He loves righteousness and blesses those who trust in Him.

We have a cloud of witnesses, believers who have gone on before us, who cheer us on as we endure and persevere in faith.

There is no temptation we face that God will not faithfully see us through.

