



Devotional

IS WHAT YOU ARE
WAITING FOR
WORTH THE WAIT?

4th to 10th May 2020

"THE SEASON OF WAITING" - WHAT CAN WE LEARN?

Welcome to the May edition of Ruach City Church (RCC) Devotional Series. It is the 7th Week since we were told:

STAY AT HOME

- ✝ Only go outside for food, health reasons or work (but only if you cannot work from home)
- ✝ If you go out, stay 2 metres (6ft) away from other people at all times
- ✝ Wash your hands as soon as you get home
- ✝ Do not meet others, even friends or family.
- ✝ You can spread the virus even if you don't have symptoms.

We commemorated **Passover** 4 weeks ago and we will very shortly be observing **Pentecost** on the 31st May, which is exactly 50 days after Passover.

After His Resurrection and before He ascended Jesus told His Disciples to
“Wait for the Promise”

**Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city
of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high.”**

(Luke 24:49 - NKJV)

In the Book of Acts Chapter 2 we read that 120 were in the Upper Room on the Day of Pentecost.

THINK ABOUT IT

Was it just the 120 of His Disciples that Jesus had spoken to? Or were there more?

There are various schools of thought that suggests that the numbers far exceeded the 120...

So, the question is this, if there were more:

- † Where were the others?
- † Why did they not stay to receive the Promise?
- † Why do you think they left?

Jesus ministered for 3 years and most of those that He would have spoken to, would have experienced both His public and private teachings, His miracles, His time of Prayers, His healings, His parables and His explanations, His constant focus on the Kingdom, His resurrection power, His arrests, His Trial, His crucifixion, His resurrection and His 40 days of teaching before ascending to Heaven and His final instruction, to:

Wait for the Promise...

- † Why do you think those who left did?
- † What could their reasons be?
- † What if any are the Positives to the “Waiting” experience?
- † What if any are the Negatives to the “Waiting” experience?

We are not given any indication that Jesus had given them a date. What we read is that Jesus (whom they knew) told them to wait for the Promise?

- † So why did they leave?

It is true to say that experience teaches us wisdom (or it should)!

It is our desire that every Believer receives what the Lord has purposed for you in this season, but it requires maturity to go through, and not abort the process, and allow bitterness and regret to become your constant companion.

We are encouraging you by the Spirit of Truth to **posture** yourselves with the desire to have an ear to hear what the Spirit of Truth is saying to you.

You are not leaving this Lockdown the same way you entered it in Jesus name!

A question to ponder as you listen to the Holy Spirit..

† What has these 7 weeks of Waiting in lockdown taught you about yourself?

Whatever the Lord is doing in this season, be truthful to yourself, and ask is it worth the wait?

We are blessed with having the Scriptures at our disposal, so we already know the disciples only had to wait 50 days. However, the possibilities are, they did not know for how long they had to wait.

This shows that they, like us, received a Word of Promise, which they did not ask for. It was Jesus who decided to give them the gift of this Promise, with the exception that however long it took, because they know Him, they would be willing to wait for the fulfilment of the Promise.

What we see in this dynamics is that the Lord Jesus expected His disciples, who knew Him, to wait on Him.

Only you can decide if what you are waiting for is worth the wait.

Part of your decision will be based on how well you know Him from having a personal relationship with Him.

Quote from Bishop T.D. Jakes

Timing is so important! If you are going to be successful in dance, you must be able to respond to rhythm and timing. It's the same in the Spirit. People who don't understand God's timing can become spiritually spastic, trying to make the right things happen at the wrong time. They don't get His rhythm - and everyone can tell they are out of step. They birth things prematurely, threatening the very lives of their God-given dreams.

Scriptures are saturated with assurances to those who are willing to **WAIT** on the Lord as the Psalmist declares:

Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and he shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the Lord. (Psalm 27:14)

PAUSE FOR THOUGHT

Imagine if you were one of those that did not wait, but left the Upper Room? How do you think you would have felt when you heard what happened?

The Lord says via the Prophet Isaiah in chapter 49 in the very last sentence of verse 23:

“For they shall not be ashamed who wait for Me.”

Do you really BELIEVE the Word of the Lord?

TRUTH STATEMENT

Waiting on God is a Biblical Virtue. It is associated with **Patience, Resignation, Submission, Dependence, and Contentment** and all comes with circumstances that are less than ideal.

ACTION PLAN

As you explore your relationship with the Lord and consider how you “**WAIT**” on Him, take the time to examine these words with the determination that you want them to be added to or increased in your character as part of your new normal in preparation to enter Life after Covid19..

Patience, Resignation, Submission, Dependence, Contentment.

PRAYING THE SCRIPTURES (KJV)

Isaiah 40:31 - But they that wait upon the **Lord** shall renew [their] strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; [and] they shall walk, and not faint.

Lamentations 3:25 - The **Lord** [is] good unto them that wait for him, to the soul [that] seeketh him.

Micah 7:7 - Therefore I will look unto the **Lord**; I will wait for the God of my salvation: my God will hear me.

Quote from John Ortberg

Biblically, waiting is not just something we have to do until we get what we want. Waiting is part of the process of becoming what God wants us to be.