

In the Midst of Waiting 2: The Humility of Waiting



Big Idea Goal

That Mercy Hill Church would be made new as we follow the One who is making all things new!



Sermon Text

Psalm 27:7-14



Big Idea

Seeing that we live between the “already” and the “not yet,” how do we wait on God without losing our minds? We wait by setting first things as first, recalling the character of God, and committing ourselves to the path of the pilgrim, knowing that God isn’t simply our deliverer, He is the very deliverance we need. We rest in him, knowing that his past faithfulness guarantees His current and future faithfulness.

Between the already and the not - freedom from sin and on the way to the promised land of the new heavens and earth - is the wait. How then do we practically wait in a faithful manner?

First Things First (vs 7-8)

The psalmist is not confused as to who is leading the dance, and so his eyes are firmly fixed on God, and so he cries to God. The real battle in every situation we face is whether the enemy’s true aim of separating us from God succeeds or fails. In response to the psalmist’s cry, God gives the only real solution - himself - in the words “Seek My Face.” The psalmist response shows his true aim isn’t simply deliverance from enemies but intimacy with God. His priority is God

Abandonment into the Hands of Yahweh (vs 9-12)

The cry of the psalmist’s heart is earnestly pleading for the “face” of Yahweh itself - his very presence. Rooted in the cry of the psalmist is deep heart contrition that leads him to God, not away from God, for he understands the nature and character of God. The psalmist will not allow the lies of the enemy to keep him from God.

And so the psalmist, as he prays, recalls the character of God as Helper (vs 9), Savior (vs 9), Faithful Companion (vs 10), Teacher (vs 11), and Deliverer (vs 12). In recalling the character and nature of God, the psalmist’s faith is strengthened. He is simultaneously humbled and God is exalted through this process. The psalmist ultimate goal is God. He is a pilgrim committed to the way of Yahweh no matter the opposition. Knowing his shortcomings, he seeks the guidance of the Teacher to avoid obstacles.

Like the psalmist, we cannot walk the path of the pilgrim without first knowing the nature and character of God. There are no shortcuts to knowing God. He longs for you. Carve out time and show up. He will lead the dance, you only need to show up

Confidence in God (vs 13-14)

Despite the presence of adversaries and false witnesses that are threatening violence, the psalmist ends as he begins. He ends the psalm, as he starts it, at a place of deep seated confidence in God. This confidence is based on knowing Yahweh is his only hope. Christ isn’t simply our deliverer, he is our deliverance.

Waiting on God is hard work. It is not resignation or despair, it is an exhibition of trust and confidence in God. It is one way - perhaps the only way - of demonstrating God’s strength manifest in our weakness. Whenever we rush frantically about trying to “do it” on our own, we in effect become “functional atheists,” denying by our actions that God is active in our lives .



Homework

- Pick one spiritual practice/discipline that draws you closer to God. It could be praying, journaling, fasting, solitude & silence, service, scripture meditation, evangelism, etc.
- Pick a time and a venue
- Show up and meet with God. You are NOT running the show, God is. Simply show up
- Do all the above consistently