

Week 1:

Life in Disappointment and Waiting



Questions

1. What illustration, story, or example stood out to you this week?
2. What need or desire have you been waiting for, and it looks like it's never going to happen?
3. Read Luke 1:13. When have you been on the verge of giving up when God answered your prayers? What prevented you from giving up?
4. Read again from Luke, this time 1:8-20, imagining you are Zechariah. What kinds of thoughts and feelings do you think he felt - and to then not be able to talk to Elizabeth about this incredible news?
5. Read Galatians 6:9. In the culture we live in, it can sometimes be a challenge to not feel weary in doing good. How do you overcome these feelings and stay strong in the face of adversity?
6. Share a time someone else has come alongside you in your time of waiting and ministered to you. What kind of impact did that have on your life? How does that encourage you to come alongside others?
7. What one practical step do you plan to implement from this week's message?

Scripture References

Read Matthew 1:18-25 and Matthew 2:13-23

Takeaways

- You don't get to pick the timing, but you do get to pick if you will be faithful.
- God is working in your waiting.
- If you keep serving God, it's only a matter of time till your "then."
- When God's timing is longer than you desire, His blessings will be greater than you desire.
- What God has for you is worth the wait.
- What if the pain in your waiting becomes the very connection to the most meaningful ministry relationship in your life?
- Someone else's story is intertwined in your waiting.
- Your hospitality could carry someone else through their waiting, while speeding your along.
- God is at work in your waiting. You should be too.
- Your old prayers haven't expired.
- God is working in your waiting.