

SOP: Watching and Waiting

Colossians 4:2

- **Waiting:** to remain inactive; in a state of repose until an expected event happens; it is a delay or a pause. To stay put in expectation. To patiently and courageously anticipate and expectantly anticipate God's timing and plan.

Habakkuk 2:1

- **Watching:** the act of looking at something for a period of time, often with attention or for a specific purpose. Observing; monitoring—for a duration of time

Matthew 26:38,41

What watching and waiting look like:

- A pregnancy—expected length/ our part: nourish/rest
- A garden—sowing/waiting through the heat of summer/harvest-reaping
 - **James 5:7**

Failure to Wait Produces:

Substitutions

Systems

Side Tracks

God's Timing

- There is always a season of waiting between the promise and the answer—between the seed and the fruit.
- His timing is not our timing

What is happening while we wait

- A seed puts roots downward—in order to bear fruit upward—Isaiah 37:31
- We gain perspective in the time of the trial—seeing a bigger picture as time passes —Psalm 40:1-3
- Our capacity for Him—His Word increases
- Begin to anticipate the form the answer will take
- If we misread the promise—we can miss or actively resist His timing
- Trust is developed and demonstrated in the waiting—Psalm 25:3
- Endurance is gained

How do we Wait?

- **Patiently (with God and in circumstances)**
 - **Psalm 37:9**
 - **Psalm 130:5-7a**
- **In Stillness**
 - **Psalm 62:1,5**
- **With Expectation and Hope**
 - **Psalm 27:13**
 - **Romans 8:24**
 - **Matthew 7:7-8**
- **In Faith**
 - **Psalm 27:14**
 - **Ephesians 6:13**
- **Secured by His Word and Spirit**
 - **Psalm 130:5**
- **New inspiration and source of strength**
 - **Isaiah 40:29-31**