

Introduction

There are times when we find ourselves in a place where we are trusting God and believing for the desires of our hearts to appear. Then there are times when we are trusting God to show up in our impossible circumstances and difficult situations. And we find ourselves waiting in the meantime. Meantime is described as a place during the time before something happens or before a specified period ends. Even better, in the meantime can also be used when someone is excited about something that hasn't happened yet and, as they anticipate it, occupy themselves with something else. Here are a few examples of those who were waiting for their promise and had to trust God in the meantime.

- **In Genesis 37 - Joseph:** the son of Jacob, was sold into slavery by his brothers and ended up in Egypt, where he was falsely accused and imprisoned. And the time he should have gotten out, he was left in prison for two more years before Pharaoh released him. Joseph had to wait in the meantime, continuing to trust in God and maintain his faith even in difficult circumstances.
- **In Genesis 21 - Abraham and Sarah:** They waited for years to have a child, despite God's promise to them that they would have many descendants. In their waiting, they had to trust in God's plan and timing, and eventually, their son Isaac was born.
- **In Exodus 2 - Moses:** He spent 40 years in the wilderness tending to sheep before God called him to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. During this time, he was waiting in the meantime, preparing for the task that God had in store for him.
- **In 1 Samuel 16 - David:** After being anointed as king by the prophet Samuel, David had to wait many years before actually taking the throne. During this time, he faced many trials and challenges, but he remained faithful to God and eventually became one of Israel's greatest kings. These are just to name a few.
- Faith and character are developed in the meantime. Here are a few examples of those in scripture who had a promise from God and developed character in the meantime. And these are to name a few. But how do we develop faith in the season of waiting? What do we do in the meantime?

I. In the meantime, resist the temptation to compromise.

- A. You know what they all had in common? **They did not compromise.** They trusted God. In a world that waits for nothing it's challenging to wait. Bishop T.D. Jakes put it this way, "We are a microwave generation serving a crock pot God."
- B. It's easy to compromise when something is taking too long to happen. It takes faith to survive in the meantime. The enemy knows how to discourage and distract. He knows when we're becoming impatient because it shows in our actions. How we talk and what we say. It gives the enemy indications that we are tired of waiting. The enemy will try to distract us with options other than what we are believing in.

II. Remember what God told you the first time. Write it down.

- A. **Habakkuk 2:1-3 AMP** *"I will stand at my guard post. And station myself on the tower; And I will keep watch to see what He will say to me, and what answer I will give [as His spokesman] when I am reproved. 2 Then the Lord answered me and said, "Write the vision and engrave it plainly on [clay] tablets so that the one who reads it will run. 3 "For the vision is yet for the appointed [future] time. It hurries toward the goal [of fulfillment]; it will not fail. Even though it delays, wait [patiently] for it, because it will certainly come; it will not delay."*
- B. Write it down and read it out loud to yourself. Strength will rise as you wait on the Lord. It will ignite the desire to develop your faith.

III. Develop your faith in the meantime.

- A. **Romans 10:17 AMP** *"So faith comes from hearing [what is told], and what is heard comes by the [preaching of the] message concerning Christ."*
- B. Develop a love for Gods word. Ask the Lord to change your nature so that your desires change to hunger for God's word. I had to do it. There were times in my life I didn't have time to study. And my thoughts were not always in tune with what God was saying.
1. Come to church and receive as much of the teaching of the word as you can. And then share what you heard!
 2. Share the good news about Jesus.
 3. Have the word of God playing in your hearing while you sleep.
 4. Look for opportunities to pray for others and expect to see what you pray for to come to past. Make it a lifestyle.
 5. You may have to play instrumental worship music 24/7 in your home to reset the atmosphere for faith to be developed.
 6. Replay or read prophetic words that were spoken to you and over you.

IV. Declare the promises of God over your life will come to pass!

- A. Decree that every prophetic word from that that has been spoken into your life shall come to pass without fail.
- B. Declare that you have a steadfast confidence in the word of the Lord that has been given to you and you are able to wage good warfare with the prophecies that have gone before you.
- C. Declare that you are able to stand firm in the prophetic word and are able to discern prophetic truth.
- D. Decree that all words spoken that have not lined up biblically or been proven as legitimate will not carry any weight. Say out loud that the words from God shall be pressed through to fruition and not be stopped by the enemy.

- E. Declare the word of the Lord over your life concerning your prophetic future shall come to pass and shall not be aborted in the name of Jesus!
- F. Declare, "It will come to pass!"

V. In the meantime, worship God in spirit and in truth.

- A. Worshipping God in spirit and truth means to worship God with both the heart and mind, and in accordance with His nature and character. Here are some ways to worship God in spirit and truth:
 - 1. Worship with a sincere heart: Worshipping with a sincere heart means that we come to God with honesty, humility, and a desire to connect with Him.
 - 2. Worship in obedience to His commands: Jesus said, "If you love me, keep my commands" (John 14:15). Worshipping in obedience to God's commands demonstrates our love for Him.
 - 3. Worship in gratitude: We can worship God by expressing our gratitude for all that He has done for us, including the gift of salvation.
 - 4. Worship in praise and adoration: We can worship God by offering Him praise and adoration for His character and attributes, such as His love, faithfulness, and mercy.
 - 5. Worship in prayer: Prayer is a way to communicate with God and express our love and devotion to Him.
 - 6. Worship in community: Worshipping with others who share our faith can help us grow in our relationship with God and provide support and encouragement.
 - 7. Testify of His goodness.

VI. Pray and trust God in the meantime.

- A. **Ephesians 6:18 (AMP)** says, "18 With all prayer and petition pray [with specific requests] at all times [on every occasion and in every season] in the Spirit, and with this in view, stay alert with all perseverance and petition [interceding in prayer] for all [a]God's people."
- B. It has rightly been said, "No prayer, no power; little prayer, little power; much prayer, much power." Prayer is mentioned at least 550 times in the Bible, 174 times in the New Testament, 35 times in Acts, 48 times in Paul's epistles. Here at Freedom, there are plenty of opportunities to pray.
- C. We offer:
 - 1. Sunday Morning Prayer
 - 2. Monday Night Worship and Prayer
 - 3. Tuesday Morning Prayer
 - 4. Wednesday Morning Prayer
 - 5. Friday Men of Honor Corporate Prayer
- D. While we are waiting in the meantime, He has not forgotten us.