

# Wednesday Night Bible Study

Wednesday 12 July 2023 – Spring Semester  
Queens Chapel UMC  
7410 Muirkirk Road \* Beltsville, MD 20705  
**Instructor: Rev. Dr. Will Butler**



## *Facing the Giant of Procrastination*

### Is God a Procrastinator?

**A:** No

### What’s the Difference between Procrastination vs. Waiting on God?

**A:** A procrastinator is one who knows what action needs to be taken but then fails to act

- ☐ God is not a procrastinator because He knows our needs and He cannot fail

### Why does God require His children to wait?

**Timing:**

#### **Psalms 90:4**

“A thousand years in your sight are like a day that has just gone by or like a watch in the night.”

- ☐ Psalms 90:4 describes the timelessness of God. Our lives are short and frail, but God does not weaken, procrastinate, or fail to act with the passing of time.
- ☐ In fact, the marking of time is irrelevant to God because He transcends it. **2 Peter 3:8** says,

"But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day."

- The Lord does not count time as we do. He is above and outside of the sphere of time.
- The time that passes on earth is of no consequence from God's timeless perspective.
- A second is no different from an eon or an indefinite long period of time; a thousand years pass like seconds to the eternal God.
- **Therefore, waiting on God should be a time to hope and trust in the Lord which requires faith, patience, humility, meekness, long-suffering, and keeping the promises of God in our hearts.**

### **What God Allows While We Wait:**

- God allows struggle and difficult times because we all come short of the glory of God. God loves us, but because of our sinful nature, He allows these things to happen.
  - He knows that by allowing us to experience failure, pain, and struggle while we wait, we will grow stronger in our faith and become closer to Him

#### **Romans 8:28**

"We know that all things work together for the good of those who love God, who are called according to his purpose."

- God allows us to experience the consequences of our poor choices, and the consequences of not living according to His word.
  - We have the gift of free will, and because of it, we are free to make decisions; both good and bad.

- If we were to suffer no consequences for our bad choices what motivation would there be for each of us to make good and sound decisions?

### **Hebrews 12:11**

"No discipline seems enjoyable at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it."

- In seeing others waiting on God, there will be times when it seems the undeserving needlessly suffer through no fault or doing of their own.
  - Some people will not fully understand the purpose for such suffering.
  - Yet, through such suffering, the grace and mercy of God may also be seen by others, so they may come to know God.

### **John 9:1-3**

"As he was passing by, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him: "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" "Neither this man nor his parents sinned," Jesus answered. "This came about so that God's works might be displayed in him." (John 9:1-3 CSB)

### **What does it mean to "wait" on the Lord?**

- Waiting on God occurs after you've prayed to God for His assistance, direction, or blessings.
  - When waiting on God, **everything you know to do is to be done without hesitation**— (*now is not the time to procrastinate*).

- **When we do what God has already made clear** in God’s Word and take the necessary steps God requires, God will reveal His will.
- One writer wrote: *“God unrolls His scroll one line at a time”*
  - One line could come from godly counsel
  - One line could be uncovered [revelation] through Bible Study
  - One line could be discovered through your personal time in God’s Word

In the Scriptures, the word *“wait”* means to hope, to anticipate, and to trust.

In **Psalms 27 (NIV)**, the word wait in Hebrew is *qavah, [kaw-vaw']*: to expect--to look with expectancy, to wait patiently.

- Let’s identify the words and/or phrases David uses in Psalms 27 that illustrate his willingness to wait on God.

### Can you identify them?

1 The Lord is my light and my salvation— whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life—of whom shall I be afraid?

2 When the wicked advance against me to devour me, it is my enemies and my foes who will stumble and fall.

3 Though an army besiege me, my heart will not fear; though war breaks out against me, even then I will be confident.

4 One thing I ask from the Lord, this only do I seek: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of

my life, to gaze on the beauty of the Lord and to seek him in his temple.

5 For in the day of trouble he will keep me safe in his dwelling; he will hide me in the shelter of his sacred tent and set me high upon a rock.

6 Then my head will be exalted above the enemies who surround me; at his sacred tent I will sacrifice with shouts of joy; I will sing and make music to the Lord.

7 Hear my voice when I call, Lord; be merciful to me and answer me.

8 My heart says of you, "Seek his face!" Your face, Lord, I will seek.

9 Do not hide your face from me, do not turn your servant away in anger; you have been my helper. Do not reject me or forsake me, God, my Savior.

10 Though my father and mother forsake me, the Lord will receive me.

11 Teach me your way, Lord; lead me on a straight path because of my oppressors.

12 Do not turn me over to the desire of my foes, for false witnesses rise up against me, spouting malicious accusations.

13 I remain confident of this: I will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.

14 Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart and wait for the Lord.

