

2nd week of June

Psalm 130

"Waiting"

Your Story

Talk about a time when you had to wait on the Lord. Perhaps it was waiting for a child or waiting for a job or waiting for suffering to end. How did God answer your prayer?

My Story and the Bible Story

Waiting is tough. Whether you are waiting in the doctor's office, waiting to get your grade from a test, waiting for summer, or waiting to hear back from a job, waiting is tough. It can be hard to be patient. I remember waiting to get my driver's license. It felt like it took forever to turn 16! I waited and waited and waited until finally, it was time to take the driver's test. I was so excited when I got my driver's license. The wait was worth it, and I got to something great. Sometimes we wait and we don't know what's going to happen. You may study and study and study for a test and you wait for your grade only to find out that you failed. You may pray and wait for a child and that prayer isn't answered in the way you wanted. When we don't know what's going to happen, when we are worried and afraid of the outcome, we can put our hope in the Lord.

Read Psalm 130. From the *NIV*: *Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord; O Lord, hear my voice. Let your ears be attentive to my cry for mercy. If you, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand? But with you there is forgiveness; therefore you are feared. I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word I put my hope. My soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen wait for the morning, more than watchmen wait for the morning. O Israel, put your hope in the Lord, for with the Lord is unfailing love and with him is full redemption. He himself will redeem Israel from all their sins.*

The Psalmist had been waiting. We don't know what was wrong, but can you hear the despair in his voice? "Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord; O Lord hear my voice. Let your ears be attentive to my cry for mercy (Psalm 130:1-2)." He is crying out in despair. He desperately needs help. Have you ever cried out to God like that? Maybe your best friend was moving away or your parents were getting a divorce, or you just couldn't seem to understand anything at school. Whatever it was, with tears streaming down your face, you cried out to God. There are times in all of our lives when we will feel this way. There will be times when you don't know what else to do and you feel like things will never get better. You pray because that's all you have left. And you don't know if God will answer your prayer, but you trust that God is there. You hope in the Lord. And like the Psalmist, you wait for the Lord. Psalm 130 reminds us that we can put our hope in the Lord because He will never let us down. There is unfailing love with the Lord. God's love never fails. It never gives up. It never lets go of us. And we can trust that God will redeem us. No matter what happens, no matter what we do, God can and will always

forgive us. Does that mean that we will always get what we want? Nope, it doesn't. But it does mean that God will always be with us. God will be there helping us through things. We can wait for the Lord because God will never leave us. We can put our hope in Him. So the next time you are waiting for God, remember that He'll never leave you. And you can trust that He knows what's best for you. Sometimes He will answer our prayers with a yes and sometimes with a no or a not yet, but He will always answer us. And He'll help us make it through. And that is great news!

Discussion

- Have you had to wait for something? What was it? How did you feel when you were waiting?
- Have you ever waited on God for something? What happened?
- What are some ways that God talks to us?

Prayer

Thank God for always being there. Ask God for help in knowing what to do.