

The Promise We Wait For The Gift of Presence – Part 2

**Life Church St. Louis December 14, 2025
Lead Pastor Dan Walker, PhD, MDiv**

Introduction

Galatians 4:4 (ESV) But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son.

Isaiah 9:2 (ESV) The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light, those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone.

Psalms 27:14 (ESV) Wait for the Lord, be strong, and let your heart take courage, wait for the Lord.

1. Receive God's Promise with Hope

Isaiah 9:6–7 (ESV) For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Psalms 119:114 (ESV) You are my hiding place and my shield, I hope in your word.

Hebrews 10:23 (ESV) Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.

Romans 15:12–13 (ESV) “The root of Jesse will come, even he who arises to rule the Gentiles, in him will the Gentiles hope.” May the God of hope fill you with

all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

2. Wait for God's Timing with Trust

Luke 2:25–26 (ESV) Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ.

Isaiah 40:31 (ESV) But they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength.

Lamentations 3:25 (ESV) The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul who seeks him.

3. See God's Faithfulness with Joy

Luke 2:27–28 (ESV) And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

Luke 2:29–32 (ESV) “Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word, for my eyes have seen your salvation that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel.”

2 Corinthians 1:20 (ESV) For all the promises of God find their Yes in him.

1 Peter 1:8–9 (ESV) Though you have not seen him, you love him... obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

The Promise We Wait For Study Guide

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Introduction

1. Why is waiting often one of the hardest parts of the Christian life?
2. What does it mean that God sent His Son “in the fullness of time,” and how does this show His perfect timing? (Galatians 4:4)
3. How does Isaiah’s prophecy remind us that God knows the exact time to bring His light into our darkness? (Isaiah 9:2)
4. How can we stay strong and take courage while waiting for God’s promises to be fulfilled? (Psalm 27:14)

1. Receive God’s Promise with Hope

1. How did Isaiah’s prophecy of a child to be born give hope to God’s people in a time of fear and uncertainty? (Isaiah 9:6–7)
2. What does it mean for God to be our “hiding place and shield,” and how does this strengthen our hope in His Word? (Psalm 119:114)
3. What does it look like to “hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering,” and why is God’s faithfulness essential to that hope? (Hebrews 10:23)
4. How does believing in God’s promises fill us with joy and peace through the power of the Holy Spirit? (Romans 15:12–13)
5. How can you speak and live with hope even when God’s promises seem delayed?

2. Wait for God’s Timing with Trust

1. What can Simeon’s example teach us about trusting God’s promises and being led by the Holy Spirit while we wait? (Luke 2:25–26)
2. How does waiting on the Lord renew our strength instead of draining it? (Isaiah 40:31)
3. What does it mean that “the Lord is good to those who wait for Him,” and how can waiting become an act of seeking God? (Lamentations 3:25)
4. How can you use God’s promises to strengthen your trust in His timing and encourage others to wait faithfully?

3. See God’s Faithfulness with Joy

1. How did the Holy Spirit lead Simeon to experience the fulfillment of God’s promise at just the right time? (Luke 2:27–28)
2. What does Simeon’s song reveal about God’s salvation and His faithfulness to both Israel and the nations? (Luke 2:29–32)
3. How does Jesus fulfill every promise of God and serve as the “Yes” to all of God’s faithfulness? (2 Corinthians 1:20)
4. How does faith allow us to rejoice in God’s promises even before we see them fulfilled? (1 Peter 1:8–9)
5. How can remembering God’s past faithfulness help you find joy and confidence in what He is still doing today?

Conclusion

1. What can we learn from Simeon’s lifelong waiting about the way God’s promises build anticipation and deepen our faith?
2. How can remembering God’s past faithfulness help you trust that His timing and promises are still perfect today?