



Part 3: “Living While Waiting”

Introduction

Waiting is difficult because it often feels like wasted time. But it doesn't have to be that way. More specifically, the time we spend waiting on what God has next for us has a purpose. The apostle Paul—who knew what it was to wait—has some insight for us on how *not* to waste our time waiting.

Discussion Questions

1. What is the longest time you've spent in a waiting room (or line, or airport, etc.)? What did you do to pass the time?
2. When you know you're in for a long wait, how do you prefer to spend your time? What makes waiting worthwhile?
3. Gavin suggested that the reason what we do in this life matters is because there is another life to come. Why should that matter?
4. Read Philippians 1:20–26. Paul confesses to his readers that he is ready to spend eternity with Jesus in heaven, but is willing to wait a little longer. What is his motivation for remaining on earth?
5. What do you think Paul meant when he said, “For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain”? What do you think that means for us?
6. What would change if the afterlife became the focus of your current life? What would it look like to take a step in that direction?

Changing Your Mind

I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.

Philippians 1:20–21