



Watching & Waiting
Pastor Rich Harris 08.31.2025

USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We have provided all the Scriptures references in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to discuss the weekend message.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session. Give priority to the needs and pace of your group members.

While the questions are important, remember your group's goal is to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships. Use the discussion questions as you see fit but emphasize the relationships.

[Proverbs 16:24] (ESV)

Gracious words are like a honeycomb, sweetness to the soul and health to the body.

[Psalm 25:3] (ESV)

Indeed, none who wait for you shall be put to shame

[Psalm 25:5] (ESV)

Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all the day long.

God gives us strength in the waiting

[Psalm 18:32] (NKJV)

It is God who arms me with strength, And makes my way perfect.

[Psalm 29:11] (NKJV)

The LORD will give strength to His people; The LORD will bless His people with peace.

[Isaiah 40:29-31] (NKJV)

He gives power to the weak, and to those who have no might He increases strength. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, And the young men shall utterly fall, but those who wait on the LORD Shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

qāwâ = to wait, look for, hope, expect

[Psalm 130:5-6] (ESV)

I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I hope; my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning.

[Ephesians 2:10] (ESV)

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

[Colossians 1:29] (ESV)

For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me.

[Philippians 2:13] (ESV)

for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

God gives us stability in the waiting

[2 Kings 19:10-11] (NLT)

Don't let your God, in whom you trust, deceive you with promises that Jerusalem will not be captured by the king of Assyria. You know perfectly well what the kings of Assyria have done wherever they have gone. They have completely destroyed everyone who stood in their way! Why should you be any different?

[2 Kings 19:14] (NLT)

After Hezekiah received the letter from the messengers and read it, he went up to the LORD's Temple and spread it out before the LORD.

[Psalm 131:1-2] (ESV)

O LORD, my heart is not lifted up; my eyes are not raised too high; I do not occupy myself with things too great and too marvelous for me. But I have calmed and quieted my soul, like a weaned child with its mother, like a weaned child is my soul within me.

[2 Kings 19:32, 35] (NKJV)

Therefore, thus says the Lord concerning the king of Assyria: He shall not come into this city or shoot an arrow there, or come before it with a shield or cast up a siege mound against And that night the angel of the Lord went out and struck down 185,000 in the camp of the Assyrians. And when people arose early in the morning, behold, these were all dead bodies.

[Psalm 46:1-2, 9-11] (ESV)

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore, we will not fear though the earth give way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear. He burns the chariots with fire. "Be still and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth!" The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress. Selah

Key Points:

1. God gives us strength in waiting
2. God gives us stability in waiting

Applications for the Week:

Pastor Rich talked about the constant sense of urgency in our culture. Where do you notice this urgency most in your own life? How does it affect your relationship with God and others?

Discussion Questions:

1. In Psalm 46, how is God described for those who follow Him when they face trouble?
2. In Isaiah 40, what does God promise to those who wait for Him, and how is this different from relying on our own strength?
3. What was King Hezekiah's response when he received a threatening letter from the King of Assyria? What did he do before taking any action?
4. Why do you think the writer of Psalm 46 used the phrase, "be still and know that I am God?" What does it mean to be still in the context of chaos and crisis?
5. Pastor Rich mentions that God gives us strength and stability in the waiting. Why might God choose to work in us during times of waiting instead of giving us instant answers?
6. When was the last time you felt like you were at the end of your own strength? Did you try to push through, or did you take time to wait on God? What was the result?
7. The idea of waiting on God is described as a daily practice, not just a Sunday moment. What is one practice way you can carve out time this week to be still and wait on God?