

**P753**

**GRACE NOTES PROGRAM**

**TOPIC: WAITING - The benefits of waiting**

**SONGS: I MISS MY TIME WITH YOU – 4:37 12intro**

**INTRO:**

**Welcome to Grace Notes. The ability to wait patiently for something has always been an admirable trait. Joseph had to wait, while suffering in enslavement for 13 years, before he was made Pharaoh's top official. David had to wait for 15 years before he was made King – all the time hiding from King Saul's murderous exploits against him. The disciples waited in the upper room for 10 days for the Holy Spirit to descend upon them. Each of their patient waiting yielding a great blessing.**

**Are YOU willing to wait for a blessing? Stay tuned as our host, Barbara Sandbek, shares some of the benefits of waiting on the Lord.**

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**I have a confession to make. I do not like to wait. How about you? I always tell the person behind me in line that they may want to change lines because God is trying to teach me patience.**

**But then, I'm sure I am in the majority with this. We are a microwave society. We've come to expect instant service, instant food, and instant credit. We tend to make on the spot purchases and rack of up bills we can't pay on time. Whatever happened to the 30-60-90 same-as-cash plan?**

**According to a 2016 study, the average U.S. household owes \$16,061 in credit card debt and pays over \$1300 in interest annually. Debt is as American as apple pie.**

**To top it all off, we want instant gratification. When our sons were young we would often offer them either what they asked for right away, or a chance to have something better later. Wish I could say they were mature enough to wait, but they always chose the NOW. Does that mean we are an immature society?**

**I've spent some TIME in the doctor's office of late. I figure that's why I'm called a PATIENT and have to wait, sometimes for hours, in the WAITING room.**

**Why do we sit PATIENTLY and put up with the wait? Because we expect to feel better and get relief.**

**I remember when I was dating, my mom would say I needed to make my date wait because good things come to those who wait. (Not sure he bought into that.)**

**If that be the case, though, then why do we have trouble waiting on and for God? He is a good God. He gives good things at the right time.**

**Eagles know how to wait. They sit on the rock and quietly wait for the wind current to lift him to higher places. The Holy Spirit is often depicted as wind.**

**As parents, and now grandparents, we are our kids CHEERING squad. When they ask for prayer, we often pray this verse over them for success.**

**Isaiah 40:31 says...**

**They that WAIT upon the Lord shall renew their strength  
They shall mount up with wings as EAGLES  
They shall run & not be weary  
They shall walk & not faint.**

**When I having difficulty at my last career job, I quoted this daily as I walked into and out of the workplace.**

**The definition of 'wait' in this context is to expect, to look for, to hope.  
The word renew means to change for the better.**

**To WAIT UPON (or on) could also mean serving. It's exhilarating when you serve the Lord. There is joy unspeakable with eternal rewards.  
And God SMILES at you. I remember feeling His smile daily when we were building the Christian radio station in Belize.**

**So what can we expect if we wait on God? Renewed STRENGTH that doesn't give out to fly above, run away from, or walk through any problem.**

**But don't take my word for it. Listen to several verses God wrote on the benefits of waiting on Him.**

**Psalm 27:14a says He'll be our strength:**

**Wait on the LORD: be of good courage, and He shall STRENGTHEN thine heart.**

**Psalm 25:5 says He'll be our instructor:**

**LEAD me in Thy TRUTH, and TEACH me: for Thou art the God of my salvation; on thee do I wait all the day.**

**Psalm 33:20 says He'll be our shield:**

**Our soul waiteth for the LORD: He is our HELP and our SHIELD.**

**Psalm 40:1 says He is our ABBA FATHER – our daddy.**

**I waited patiently for the LORD; and he INCLINED unto me, and HEARD my cry.**

**(The word 'inclined' is like mom listening for her child's call at night.)**

**Psalm 59:9 says He'll be our protector:**

**Because of His strength will I wait upon thee: for God is my DEFENSE.**

**Psalm 130:5 shows that He gives hope:**

**I wait for the LORD, my soul doth wait, and in his word do I HOPE.**

**Psalm 145:15 assures us that He'll be our provider:**

**The eyes of all wait upon Thee; and Thou GIVEST them their meat in due season.**

**Proverbs 8:34 says He satisfies us:**

**BLESSED (or happy) is the man that heareth Me, watching daily at my gates, waiting at the posts of my doors.**

**One of the devotionals we presented on the station we built in Belize was a reading from a booklet called 'My heart, Christ's home', written by Robert Boyd Munger. The booklet describes parts of our life as if they were rooms in a house and how these rooms relate to our relationship with the Lord. One of my favorites is the Living Room, and I quote:**

**The LIVING ROOM...**

**..This was a quiet, comfortable room with a warm atmosphere.**

**I liked it. It had a fireplace, sofa, overstuffed chairs, a bookcase and an intimate atmosphere. He also seemed pleased with it. He said,**

**"Indeed this is a delightful room. Let's come here often. It's secluded and quiet, and we can have good talks and fellowship together."**

**Well, naturally, as a young Christian I was thrilled. I couldn't think of anything I would rather do than have a few minutes alone with Christ in close companionship. He promised, "I will be here every morning early. Meet me here and we will start the day together."**

**So morning after morning I would go downstairs to the living room. He would take a book of the Bible from the bookcase, open it, and we would read it together. He would unfold to me the wonder of God's saving truth recorded on its pages and make my heart sing as He shared all He had done for me and would be to me. Those times together were wonderful. Through the Bible and His Holy Spirit, He would talk to me. In prayer I would respond.**

**So our friendship deepened in these quiet times of personal conversation.**

**However, under the pressure of many responsibilities, little by little, this time began to be shortened. Why, I'm not sure. Somehow I assumed I was just too busy to give special, regular time to be with Christ. This was not a deliberate decision, you understand, it just seemed to happen that way. Eventually not only was the period shortened, but I began to miss days now and then, such as during midterms or finals. Matters of urgency demanding**

my attention were continually crowding out the quiet times of conversation with Jesus. Often I would miss it two days in a row or more.

One morning, I recall rushing down the steps in a hurry to be on my way to an important appointment. Glancing in, I saw a fire in the fireplace and Jesus sitting there. Suddenly, in dismay, it came to me, "He is my guest. I invited him into my heart! He had come as my Savior and Friend to live with me. Yet here I am neglecting Him." I stopped, turned and hesitantly went in. With downcast glance I said, "Master, I'm sorry! Have You been here every morning?" "Yes," He said, "I told you I would be here to meet with you." I was even more ashamed! He had been faithful in spite of my faithlessness. I asked Him to forgive me and He did, as He always does when we acknowledge our failures and want to do the right thing. He said, "The trouble is that you have been thinking of a quiet time, of Bible study and prayer, as a means for your own spiritual growth. This is true, but you have forgotten that this time means something to me, also. Remember, I love you. At a great cost I have redeemed you! I value your friendship. Just to have you look up into my face warms my heart. Don't neglect this hour if only for My sake. Whether or not you want to be with me, remember, I want to be with you. I really love you!"

I thought this song so perfectly portrays the way God feels about being with Him before we start the day.

\*\*\*\*\* WRITER: Larnelle Harris  
\*\*\* I MISS MY TIME WITH YOU \*\*\* LENGTH: 4:37  
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**I MISS MY TIME WITH YOU**

*There He was just waiting  
In our old familiar place  
An empty spot beside Him  
Where once I used to wait  
To be filled with strength and wisdom  
For the battles of the day  
I would have passed Him by again  
If I didn't hear Him say*

*(chorus)*

*I miss my time with you  
Those moments together  
I need to be with you each day  
And it hurts Me when you say  
You're too busy  
Busy trying to serve Me  
But how can you serve Me  
When your spirits empty  
There's a longing in My heart  
Wanting more than just a part of you  
It's true, I miss My time with you*

*What will I have to offer  
How can I truly care  
My efforts have no meaning  
When Your presence isn't there  
But You'll provide the power  
If I take time to pray  
I'll stay right here beside You  
And You'll never have to say*

*(chorus) 2x*

**Susannah Spurgeon, wife of Charles Spurgeon, counseled her own heart while waiting with these words:**

**“The Lord has strewn the pages of God’s Word with promises of blessedness to those who wait for Him. And remember, His slightest Word stands fast and sure; it can never fail you. So, my soul, see that you have a PROMISE underneath thee, for then your waiting will be RESTING and a FIRM FOOTHOLD for your hope will give you CONFIDENCE in Him who has said, ‘They shall not be ashamed that wait for Me.’”**

**You’ve been listening to Grace Notes. If you have been blessed by this ministry, your note of encouragement would be greatly appreciated. You can write to us at Sandbek Ministries P.O. Box 581 Fallston, MD 21047 or email us through our web site at [www.gracenotesradio.com](http://www.gracenotesradio.com).**