

Character Matters How To Develop Patience

1. Realize that waiting is _____

Genesis 40:23 ...when all goes well with you, remember me and show me kindness; mention me to pharaoh and get me out of this prison. For I was forcibly carried off from the land of the Hebrews, and even here I have done nothing to deserve being put in a dungeon...The chief cupbearer, however, did not remember Joseph; he forgot him.

Danger: You believe waiting means God _____

Key: Remember there's always a _____

- Circumstances may not be right yet
- What we want may not be best for us
- He may be trying to develop my character
- He may be trying to get us to depend on Him

2. _____ while you wait

Genesis 39:22 So the warden put Joseph in charge of all those held in the prison, and he was made responsible for all that was done there.

Danger: You get discouraged and _____

3. _____

1 Thessalonians 5:18 Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.

4. Let your waiting _____

Genesis 40:8 "We both had dreams," they answered, "But there is no one to interpret them." Then Joseph said to them, "Do not interpretations belong to God? Tell me your dreams."

Danger: Taking matters into _____

Key: God, what can I _____ ?

- God loves me and is for me
- God is working on my behalf right now
- There's a purpose in this waiting

Psalm 40:1 I waited patiently for the LORD's help; then he listened to me and heard my cry.

Reflection Questions

- What lessons have you learned when God has delayed something in your life?
- What do you think God wants you to do when you get discouraged with his timing?
- How can you show patience with others like God is patient with you?

Isaiah 30:18 Therefore the LORD waits to be gracious to you, and therefore He exalts Himself to show mercy to you. For the LORD is a God of justice; blessed are all those who wait for Him. (ESV)

Isaiah 40:31 But they who wait for 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. (ESV)

Psalm 27:14 Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD!

Proverbs 16:9, 33 We can make our plans, but the Lord determines our steps. We may throw the dice, but the Lord determines how they fall.