

LIFE CHANGING
PRAYERS

“WAITING & TRUSTING” // Psalm 13

Tyler Scott // July 18-19, 2015

INTRODUCTION

Have you ever prayed for something for a REALLY long time, and it seemed like the prayers went unanswered? Sometimes God seems distant. Sometimes it seems God doesn't hear our prayers, or our prayers go unanswered. Sometimes we cry out to the Lord in absolute desperation...and somehow God moves us from desperation to faith. Psalm 13 is a life changing prayer of David where, in the midst of 6 profound verses, a man is moved from desperation, to prayer, to profound faith. And from this incredible journey in the life of David, there is much for us to learn and apply.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. **Read Psalm 13.** When was the last time you were in the “waiting room?” Explain the situation, including how & when you got out. Lastly, share the most meaningful lesson you learned from your time in that “waiting room.”
2. **Read 13:1-2.** What's one prayer that you have been praying for a LONG time?
 - a. Share a time in your life when you 'CRIED OUT to God for something significant.
3. **Read 13:3-4, and Exodus 14:13-14..**
 - a. Describe your pattern of “pausing and praying,” when necessary. What are a couple benefits to such a habit/pattern/practice?
 - b. If you don't have such a pattern, describe how it might look & feel like in your life.
 - c. Why do you think “surrender” language is so important in prayer?
4. **Read Psalm 13:5-6.** David is very discouraged, yet not defeated. He chooses to trust in God himself, and His character and provision.
 - a. Take 3 minutes and LITERALLY count your blessings. Make an actual list on a sheet of paper.
 - b. What is one BIG way God has been good to you in the last year? What about in the last 5-10 years?
 - c. Why is remembering God's goodness to you so important?
 - d. **Read Psalm 13** again, in its entirety. What do you notice about the shifts in tone and focus?

- e. **Read 1 Corinthians 15:1-2.** What elements of the gospel message are strong and trustworthy enough for you to stand firm on them? In what ways can we be continually saved by the gospel?
- f. How is trusting, rejoicing, remembering and worshipping actually a way of standing firm and shifting the focus?
- 5. **Read Isaiah 64:1-4 and 46:1-4.** How does this truth/promise make you feel: "God works for those who wait for him?"
 - a. In the past, how has God worked in and through the "waiting room" in your life?
 - b. What things in your life does God NOT require you to work for? Explain.
 - c. Share one story of how God "carried you" or "rescued you" in a difficult situation.
- 6. In what ways are "waiting rooms" fertile ground for growth in our lives?
- 7. **Read Psalm 40:1-3 and Isaiah 40:10.** What encourages you the most about these verses?

FOR MEMORY

Memorize Psalm 13:5-6.

PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER

Pray for the person on your right.