



Waiting For God
Psalm 130:1-8
#15 in a series on the Psalms
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Theme: **Waiting For God Should Never Defeat Us.**

The Distress In Waiting For God Can Include...

1. God seems to be silent. (1-2; cf. 22:1-2; 28:1-2; 39:12; 69:17; 102:1-2; 143:7)
2. Your unworthiness and sin can take center stage. (3; cf. Psalm 1:1-6; 15:1-5; Isaiah 6:1-5)

The Response While Waiting For God Should Include...

1. Allow truth to direct your feelings. (4; cf. Psalm 25:3, 11; 51:2, 7; 78:38; 85:2; 86:5; 103:3; 1 John 2:9)
2. Place your hope in God and His Word. (4-5; cf. Psalm 17:6; 38:15; 91:15)
3. Wait for, anticipate God's response. (5-6; cf. Psalm 17:6; 38:15; 91:15)
4. Call others to hope in God. (7-8; cf. Psalm 131:3; 146:5)

In My Life This Week

(As you use this daily guide, write out your observations and responses on a separate piece of paper and save them with this sheet for reference.)

Monday. Waiting for God to respond, to direct or act can be distracting and disturbing. We saw in the experience of the writer of Psalm 130 that it does not have to, should not defeat us. Read this brief Psalm several times, slowly and thoughtfully. Think of times where God seemed distant and silent, when you were waiting (patiently or not) for Him to respond. What have you learned about God, yourself and life from those times?

Tuesday. We can experience distress when we wait for God, when we repeatedly call out to God and don't sense His response. Review the Psalm writer's experience in verses 1-2. What does his going through this tell you about your similar experiences? As well, when God seems distant and silent, our unworthiness and sin can take center stage (see verse 3). This writer did not acknowledge or confess any sin that he had not dealt with to this point. Even though he was right with God, His unworthiness and past sins took center stage. Have you experienced this?

Wednesday. God gives us direction on how to respond while we wait for Him to act. Verse 4 teaches us that God's truth should direct our feelings—here specifically about his position before God. God gives forgiveness. He was forgiven. Are there any past sins you have confessed and from which you have repented or turned that still drag you down?

Related to this is making sure we place our hope in God and His certain Word (verses 4-5). We can think and feel both good and bad things about ourselves that are wrong. God's Word, the Bible, is the true, unchanging truth on which we can have hope. This is another reason that regular time in God's Word is important for you, for every believer.

Thursday. The Psalm writer waited for God's response with eagerness, with expectancy (see verses 5-6). He did not know the when, how and what of God's response, but anticipated it because...? Do you sometimes call to God "out of the depths" but are not sure of, don't really expect God to answer? The Psalm writer knew, based on the Word, that God would answer (see Psalm 17:6; 38:15; 91:14-5).

This man was so convinced that God would answer him that he closed this Psalm with an emphatic call to all God's people to "hope in the LORD" (verses 7-8). He was still waiting, but looking beyond himself to encourage others. That is how we should respond while waiting for God.

Friday–Saturday. On Sunday we plan to look at Psalm 125. Read and think through this Psalm as you prepare for our time of worship together.

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