

WAIT

December 5, 2021

Matthew 1:18-25

Much of life involves waiting, but we often don't remember it that way.

Have you noticed how much waiting there is in life? Perhaps you remember waiting for graduation. They call this senioritis. Or maybe you remember waiting for Christmas and the difficulty of waiting each day for it to finally come. We were at Universal Studios last year and we waited in line for three hours for the Jurassic Park ride. And, when we travelled home that day, I was sure the kids would never want to go back. Because they were in line for three hours for a ten-minute ride. Nope. They LOVED it! They didn't remember the waiting at all!!!

Are you good at waiting or do you tend to give up early?

18 This is how the birth of Jesus Christ took place. When Mary his mother was engaged to Joseph, before they were married, she became pregnant by the Holy Spirit. 19 Joseph her husband was a righteous man. Because he didn't want to humiliate her, he decided to call off their engagement quietly.

You can become great at waiting if you:

1) Declare your heart, soul, and time of waiting to be _____ free zone. (judgement)

THINK IT OVER

How do you find yourself internalizing the judgment of the world around you?

20 As he was thinking about this, an angel from the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, don't be afraid to take Mary as your wife, because the child she carries was conceived by the Holy Spirit.

You can become great at waiting if you:

2) Bring _____ and God's _____ into every decision.

Let God _____ you through the waiting. (God, grace, lead)

THINK IT OVER

What is something that you are waiting for right now?
What do you feel God is saying about that?

21 She will give birth to a son, and you will call him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

You can become great at waiting if you:

3) Acknowledge that God has a _____ and _____ role for you to play in God's plan. (great, important)

THINK IT OVER

Do you have clarity about thing that God has you waiting for? Do you truly believe it's something important?

22 Now all of this took place so that what the Lord had spoken through the prophet would be fulfilled: 23 Look! A virgin will become pregnant and give birth to a son, And they will call him, Emmanuel. (Emmanuel means "God with us.")

You can become great at waiting if you:

4) Remember that you're not the _____ waiting.

Your time of waiting is _____ by all. (only one, shared)

THINK IT OVER

How might it change how you wait through your difficulty if you recognize that others are experiencing the same thing and that you're not alone?