

God is Waiting for You

Questions for Community Groups Week of October 22-28

Hosts – you are appreciated. Thank you for preparing to host this week and for praying for your group members.

God is Waiting for You

Isaiah 30:18-22

Say, Over these 40 Days of Waiting we have been stretched, encouraged, frustrated, emboldened and strengthened. Through the sermons, daily devotionals, social media posts and conversations, Waiting has clearly been a recurring theme.

Ask, Who would like to share one thing that God has been teaching you through this 40 Days of Waiting?

Say, This week Michael shared from the prophet Isaiah. And the shift was made from Us waiting on God to God is waiting on you. Let's read this passage -

"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. For a people shall dwell in Zion, in Jerusalem; you shall weep no more. He will surely be gracious to you at the sound of your cry. As soon as he hears it, he answers you. And though the Lord give you the bread of adversity and the water of affliction, yet your Teacher will not hide himself anymore, but your eyes shall see your Teacher. And your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, "This is the way, walk in it," when you turn to the right or when you turn to the left. Then you will defile your carved idols overlaid with silver and your gold-plated metal images. You will scatter them as unclean things. You will say to them, "Be gone!"'" Isaiah 30:18-22

Say, God exalts Himself to provide mercy to us. By no strength of our own, God alone provides us mercy.

How amazing is it that God does all the work and the only thing we bring is our sin and our surrender?

Ask, What do you think about that statement? Have you ever tried to convince yourself that YOU have to make a way out of your own sin and struggles?

Say, The first point of the sermon is - **God is waiting for you to wait**. His patience is long with us. He waits on us to stop panicking, worrying, and frenzied activity.

Ask, What are some ways you have learned to recognize in your life that worry, panic and activity are taking over your life?

Say, Michael mentioned that it is time to Stop drinking sewage to fulfill your thirst.

Ask, How are some practical ways that you can thirst for more of God? (spend time in the Word; surround yourself with people who help you focus on where God is at work; etc.)

Say, the second point of the sermon is - **God is waiting for you to trust**.

Ask for someone to explain how God is just (fair, rightly discerning) and how He alone can be trusted. Remind those in your group that at times we go to untrue sources when He is waiting on us to trust Him. Remind the group that He is filled with grace and mercy.

Ask, Is there an area in your life where it is hard to trust in God? (be willing to stop and pray that God would help those in those areas of unbelief in their lives.)

Say, The last point is that **God is waiting for you to repent**. (be sure to define repent - to turn or change direction). God's desire is for us to throw away the idols that we have (\$, technology, likes, pizza- food).

Ask, Where do you turn for comfort? (People pleasing, relationships, addictions, spending, hoarding, God)

Say, God will lead us as we surrender, to defile and reject those things that are not like God.

Close your time reminding group members that you will continue to pray for them and ask them to pray for one another this week. Ask the group to help one another in those areas that might be easy for them to fall back into sinful patterns of panic, worry and activity.

Be sensitive to those in the group who might need a little more encouragement as they learn to trust and surrender to Christ.