



Christian Education

Quarterly Newsletter

July 2011



Riceville Baptist Church

11539 S. Gessner Rd.

Houston, TX 77071

713.778.0992

Rev. Terry E. Mackey, Sr. Pastor

Rev. Joe D. Johnson, Pastor Emeritus

Worship Services

SUNDAYS

8:00 AM – Worship Service

11:00 AM – Worship Service

Learning Opportunities

SUNDAYS

9:45 AM – Sunday School

WEDNESDAYS

7:00 PM – Bible Study

THURSDAYS (2nd)

6:30 PM – Teachers' Training

Waiting on God Written by JB & Shugie Collingsworth

Have you ever had to wait on God when the issue was really important and you were sure that now was the time for an answer? I suppose we all have been there. Stresses in marriage come in different packages and sometimes in the midst of a mess God may speak to your heart and say, "Wait." I want to encourage you if that is where you are today. Here are a few thoughts about waiting that may be helpful.

Waiting is Part of God's Plan

You are not alone! The Bible is full of verses on waiting. So the fact that you may be waiting on God is not unique to you. God can accomplish His purposes through our waiting. Can I remind you that the goal is to accomplish God's purposes, not ours? Do you really believe and trust that His ways are better than ours? He knows the whole picture; we can't see it all.

"Be silent before the Lord and wait expectantly for Him," (Psalm 37:7, HCSB).

(continued on Page 2)

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Waiting on God *(continued from front page)*

Obey While You Wait!

Are you waiting on your spouse to make changes that will help your marriage or family? Guess what? While you are praying and waiting, be sure you are seeking God and obeying Him in everything He asks of you.

"So we must not get tired of doing good, for we will reap at the proper time if we don't give up," (Galatians 6:9, HCSB).

What Good Comes from Waiting?

Endurance is worth waiting for! Really. No one cultivates endurance without being in situations that demand persistence, right choices, and waiting. You get to see God in action when you wait! If you push for your plan and your timetable, you may get it, but it may not be God's best for you and you will always know that you made "it" happen. But, if you choose to literally wait when God says wait, you get to see Him at work in His way and according to His timetable! Wow – to see God move and bring things to a head or to fruition in my life or yours is an incredible thing and it is our choice if we are willing to wait when God says wait.

"Wait for the Lord; be courageous and let your heart be strong. Wait for the Lord," (Psalm 27:14, HCSB).

There is Purpose in Waiting

Desperate people often turn to God and they are amazed to experience His presence and power. So, give in to your desperation and dependence on Him and see what He can and will do.

"Those who trust in the Lord will renew their strength..." (Isaiah 40:31, HCSB).

A Testimony in the Making

Now, what is your struggle or worry today? Will you give God your situation and trust that He can bring resolution? If you will ask and seek, God will reveal Himself to you and accomplish His purposes. But you may have to wait. As you seek God, and listen, and obey His commands to you, He will amaze you. And you will have a testimony of His power that you will want to share with everyone!

"The Lord is good to those who wait for Him, to the person who seeks Him," (Lamentations 3:25, HCSB).

Learn more about "waiting" in this quarter's **YOU** class: **LORD WHEN...?**

Family Discipleship in the Summertime *by Jeri Tanner*

Summertime is a more relaxed season of the year for many families (although with vacations, baseball, and family reunions our schedules can still be hectic!) But summer is a good time to remind ourselves as parents that growth in the grace and knowledge of God doesn't take summer breaks. The summer months present a great opportunity for Christian moms and dads to faithfully model disciplines of Bible study, prayer and fellowship to their children. Here are a few tips to help encourage parents to keep up with their family ministry:

1. Keep consistent habits of Bible study and prayer.

Summer schedules are often such that it's easy to let things slide, but it's good to teach our kids that God is central to our lives no matter what else is going on. Reading His word and praying together each day, whether we are at home or on vacation, models our dependence on Him to our children, and proves we practice what we preach.

2. Try to schedule vacations and other activities so that, as often as possible, you can attend your local church.

It is encouraging to pastors and congregations when members make it a priority to be present, and it shows respect for God's command (Hebrews 10:25). We help our children when we teach them that we don't view church attendance as "seasonal."

3. If your family is away from home on Sunday, try to find a good church in that area to visit with.

This may seem a novel idea initially, but it is consistent with the desire to model to our children the priority of hearing God's word preached and meeting with His people on the Lord's day. It's fun, and interesting, too.

4. Even when (especially when!) on the road, don't neglect those good habits of daily Bible reading and prayer.

Making God your highest priority each day teaches your children true things about Him that words alone will not.

3rd Qtr. Sunday School Classes

beginning July 3, 2011

Adult Christian Life
The Community of Faith

Bible Study Exposition
The Book of Romans

Upcoming Conferences

YOU

Lord When...? Seasons of waiting aren't the end of the world



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