

INCLUSIVE GATHERING BIRMINGHAM

Real Talk about Waiting on God (25 July 2022)

Welcome

SONG – Every Praise

Quick question around tables (5 minutes):

Have you ever had to wait a really long time for something you really wanted? Did you get it? Whether or not you got it, was it what you expected?

SCRIPTURE: Psalm 130

Reflection: Waiting on God

SONG – I Will Wait

Table Discussion (15 minutes)

Feedback

POEM – For Those Who Have Far to Travel

Blessing: *“May we live fully, love wastefully and have the courage to be all that God has created us to be.”*

EVERY PRAISE

Every praise is to our God
Every word of worship with one accord
Every praise every praise is to our God
Sing hallelujah to our God
Glory hallelujah is due our God
Every praise every praise is to our God

God my Saviour
God my Healer
God my Deliverer

CCLI Song # 6623483
Hezekiah Walker | John David Bratton
© 2013 Davo Pavo Music (Admin. by BMG Rights Management GmbH)
Li'l Eva Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)
Luv Ki Publishing (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)
For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com
CCLI Licence No. 568546

PSALM 130

From the depths of despair, O God,
I call for your help.
Hear my cry, O God.
Pay attention to my prayer.
God, if you kept a record of our sins,
who, O God, could ever survive?
But you offer forgiveness,
that we might learn to fear you.
I am counting on God;
yes, I am counting on God.
I have put my hope in God's word.
I long for God
more than sentries long for the dawn,
yes, more than sentries long for the dawn.
O Israel, hope in God;
for with God there is unfailing love.
God's redemption overflows.
God Godself will redeem Israel
from every kind of sin.

I WILL WAIT

Well I came home Like a stone
And I fell heavy into your arms
These days of dust Which we've known
Will blow away with this new sun
But I'll kneel down
Wait for now
And I'll kneel down
Know my ground

And I will wait, I will wait for you...

So break my step And relent
You forgave and I won't forget
Know what we've seen and him with less
Now in some way shake the excess

'Cause I will wait, I will wait for you ...

Now I'll be bold as well as strong
And use my head alongside my heart
So take my flesh and fix my eyes
A tethered mind free from the lies
And I'll kneel down
Wait for now
I'll kneel down
Know my ground

Raise my hands
Paint my spirit gold
And bow my head
Keep my heart slow

'Cause I will wait, I will wait for you...

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE FAR TO TRAVEL

If you could see
the journey whole,
you might never
undertake it,
might never dare
the first step
that propels you
from the place
you have known
toward the place
you know not.

Call it
one of the mercies
of the road:
that we see it
only by stages
as it opens
before us,
as it comes into
our keeping,
step by
single step.

There is nothing
for it
but to go,
and by our going
take the vows
the pilgrim takes:

to be faithful to
the next step;
to rely on more
than the map;
to heed the signposts
of intuition and dream;
to follow the star
that only you
will recognize;

to keep an open eye
for the wonders that
attend the path;
to press on
beyond distractions,
beyond fatigue,
beyond what would
tempt you
from the way.

There are vows
that only you
will know:
the secret promises
for your particular path
and the new ones
you will need to make
when the road
is revealed
by turns
you could not
have foreseen.

Keep them, break them,
make them again;
each promise becomes
part of the path,
each choice creates
the road
that will take you
to the place
where at last
you will kneel

to offer the gift
most needed—
the gift that only you
can give—
before turning to go
home by
another way.

—Jan Richardson
from *Circle of Grace: A Book of Blessings for the Seasons*