



for the one who's tired of waiting

Hey friend. You, the tired and worn out one. You've been pushing, pushing, pushing. Waiting for momentum. Unsure of what tomorrow will look like. Not sure how to plan for it. Trying to be faithful in these moments, but there's so much to be faithful in that you're not sure if you're doing it right, or giving everything the proper attention.

The Lord sees and knows. He sees where you've taken risks that seem foolish, and where you've obeyed but the results don't seem to make sense. He sees your wrestle with striving, and your desire to just be and abide. He's not impatient or annoyed by you constantly asking Him if you're doing it right. He's not shaking His head and tsk-ing, wishing you'd get your act together and stop bugging Him.

He's a good, good Father.

He loves your heart that continues to press forward in obedience and surrender, especially when you don't know what it looks like exactly or how things will turn out.

You can trust Him to tell you what you need to know when you ask Him. And you can trust Him to give you what you need when you ask Him, too.

For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. What father among you, if his son asks for a fish, will instead of a fish give him a serpent; or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

— Luke 11:10-13

We have peonies should've bloomed over a week ago but we had the rainiest, cloudiest, gloomiest June I can ever remember. We're almost halfway through the summer, and it's still cloudy.

And there's a word in them for those who have been waiting: The Lord is still shining on your situation. I know it seems like it's taking so long and you've almost given up hoping and praying and watering and expecting, but your answer is on the cusp of blooming. Do not cut it down too early. Don't give up on tending it. He is putting things in order, and answers, solutions, and breakthrough are going to start unfolding faster than you can believe.

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You can trust Him. Yes, He's teaching you perseverance. But He's not teaching you to be miserable, resigned, or crestfallen. He's teaching you how faithful, loving, good, and creative He is.

Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old.

Behold, I am doing a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.

— Isaiah 43:18-19

So you have been waiting and waiting and waiting. And now this: Just a little movement, so small it's almost insulting. One petal unfolds, sticking out awkwardly, while everything else is still tightly closed.

Is this a joke? Doesn't God know you need so much more? You have been running and running, and this small bump of a reward doesn't even come close to what you were hoping for.

But can you praise Him in this small thing? Can you shun disappointment for a minute and refuse to listen to the lies of discouragement long enough to thank Him for this movement?

You want to, because future movement depends on it. Our worship will make the difference between this thing firing up or fizzling out.

And hey, friend...of course it doesn't look like it should yet. Things are just getting started.

Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these, be diligent to be found by him without spot or blemish, and at peace. And count the patience of our Lord as salvation...

— 2 Peter 3:14-15a

You know those things that don't make sense? The ones that aren't adding up right: A plus B ought to equal C but instead it's equaling negative five or something. Even though all the right components are there, it still isn't turning out right. Why have things been so slow, so small, when you know they should've been so big?

Did the Lord forget? Is He angry with you? Did He decide you don't really deserve it?

No. He's growing your wings. He's teaching you to see, and to be alert, and to recognize that some things around you are not just what they seem. He's making you strong, and preparing you for exploits.





Things will speed up soon enough, and when they do, you'll be ready because you surrendered to this process of growth and preparation.

For who is God, but the Lord? And who is a rock, except our God?— the God who equipped me with strength and made my way blameless. He made my feet like the feet of a deer and set me secure on the heights. He trains my hands for war, so that my arms can bend a bow of bronze. You have given me the shield of your salvation, and your right hand supported me, and your gentleness made me great. You gave a wide place for my steps under me, and my feet did not slip.

— Psalm 18:31-36

It doesn't make sense because you are only seeing part of what's going on. And part of what you're seeing is misleading and meant to discourage you. Don't fall for it.

Just like stepping on the scale when someone else is putting weight on it, the numbers you are seeing aren't the full picture and many of them are false. Don't put all your trust in the numbers or other things you can see. Put your trust in God who hears you and knows you and answers prayer. He is answering it. Don't let discouragement cause you to give up when victory is so close.

Good and upright is the Lord; therefore he instructs sinners in the way. He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way. All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

— Psalm 25:8-10

The Lord sees those things you've been quiet about and trying to be brave for. He knows you've been inwardly wilting, trying to stand tall but feeling like liquid inside, unsure of how much longer you can go before collapsing. He has no intention of letting you collapse, though. And He's not playing games, testing to see how far you can go. He knows. He's not some scientist experimenting on you like a lab rat.

He knows how far you can go. So He's preparing you to be there. Think about that for a second. You can trust Him with change, and with your future, and with your family as you get there, and beyond. You can trust Him to be good to you during the whole process.

Grace, mercy, and peace will be with us, from God the Father and from Jesus Christ the Father's Son, in truth and love.

— 2 John 1:3

