

Day 3 Session 1A

By Ken Ulmer

[00:00:00.000]

Ken Ulmer:

All right, everybody stand up again. Everybody face. Let's see. I can't do that, can we? You guys on the floor face that way. This way. You guys on the stand, face this way.

[00:00:18.240] Now the person. Are we marching now? The person in front of you needs something that you can give them. Take your hand and grab him right by the shoulders. Massage on a little bit. Oh, they don't have anybody to massage them. He doesn't have anybody. Anoint that brother right up there would you? Somebody. Somebody anoint that sister back there in the yellow and the black and white and white. She looks so lonely. Alright, alright, alright. Okay. Now everybody turn around. Now payback time.

[00:01:19.650] Don't break the collarbone. All right. Don't go to sleep. I don't know which one of these I'm in. It's the one that was up here. I don't know which one I'm in. We're going to take a moment and find which one I'm plugged into. I'm just plugged in. Got it. There it is. There it is. Well, I don't know about you, but that. Wow, that worship time, just wiped me out. That really blessed me. And I hope you I fully appreciate this. But I am constantly amazed at the diversity within the body of Christ.

[00:02:18.460] That which we often see as divisions and unfortunately, sometimes negative division is in fact positive diversity. And I just praise God for those brothers and sisters who led us. I don't know if any of them are here, but we ought to give them a hand anyway. Well, we've

come to the last session. I want to thank you for having me and for sharing this time these few days with me. You probably have have blessed me more than I blessed you just being sharing with some of you and seeing what God is doing in your life and the testimony of God presence in your life.

[00:03:14.220] Thank you. Thank you for my my assistant this week and to the sound brother. This brother has been on the case all this week. We've been setting up and shutting down and setting up for this one. Go back to the other. And I really appreciate this ministry.

[00:03:38.120] I want us to close today by talking about what I believe, what I believe is quite possibly the most difficult discipline of all. At least for me, it has proven to be the most difficult discipline of all. It's a it's kind of like in God's curriculum in God's curriculum in God's curriculum as it is here in school. In God's curriculum, there are certain classes that are electives and then there are certain classes that are requirements. And I can remember when I was about ready to graduate University of Illinois.

[00:04:29.570] I went through the credit check and everything and you go down and you check off all the things we take and some kind of way. They look back on my transcript and discovered as they often do. There's this one little class that you didn't take, that's not an elective. And you have to go back and take this requirement, this requirement. And some kind of way through four years, you kind of dance around and skip around it, but it always comes back to catch you when it's graduation time, and you cannot graduate without having taken these certain required classes.

[00:05:11.050] That's kind of the way it is in God's curriculum. There are some classes that are electives that your neighbor may take, and you will never take. There are certain classes that certain lessons that your neighbor will learn and you may never learn those lessons and praise God for that. I believe that is because there are some lessons that you will go through that you can handle, and God knows you can handle them that he will not require me to go through because I can't handle them, and he will never put more on you than you can bear.

[00:05:43.580] And so there are certain classes that I may take, certain experiences that I may go through, that you may never go through. And that's okay, because because if you if you could not handle that class, God wouldn't put it on you. I can't remember when I applied for the for admission at University of Illinois. I applied and was accepted as a premed student. A premed student. I applied to University of Illinois. I was accepted as a premed student, and I stayed in premed for all of two weeks.

[00:06:18.490] I was in premed for two weeks, because when I got there, they gave me the first week, they gave me this list of requirements for the next four years of my life. And I saw that list. And after I got up off the floor, I looked at that list again, and I saw the requirements for the next four years. And I decided that I believe the spirit was telling me that I should just go another way. I just had a witness in my spirit that the law was lead me another way because of the requirements and that's kind of the way it is with God.

[00:06:48.760] There are certain experiences that some of you will experience and go through that friend of yours will never go through. For you those things, for some of us, those things will

be elective. But there is, there are some experiences, some classes and especially the one I'm about to tell you about that is not an elective. It's a requirement. It's a requirement. It is a requirement. And every one of us in this room has either been through this class. Some of us are in this class right now, and if you're not in it, I promise you, you will not graduate until you take this required course.

[00:07:28.860] It is the discipline of waiting. The discipline of waiting. We've been talking all this week about various disciplines that promote and lead us to and take us on the road toward Godliness. There is a discipline I promise you, you will take. There is a class that you will take as a matter of the fact, as a matter of fact, it is such a requirement that you will take it until you pass it. And unfortunately, the curve is high. And sometimes you think that you've learned it until the next incident comes, you discovered that you didn't learn as much last time as you thought.

[00:08:21.720] And so God says, take the class again, take the class again. That's kind of the way there with the discipline of waiting. Seven years ago, seven years ago, seven years ago, the church that I passed seven years ago, we began looking for some property, a new place to worship. We began about ten years ago with about worshiping, about 100 people, 120, 30 people. Last Sunday. Last Sunday, we had a little over 2000 people in about ten years time. So about seven years ago, we began to look for a place to relocate.

[00:09:12.270] And in those seven years, we have come very close a number of times after purchasing property, and for whatever reason, it always fell through. Three years ago, we found

some property, and we were just convinced that that's what God had given us. And so three years ago, we raised some special offering for it. And we had a special time of prayer. And then one Sunday afternoon, we went out there on a Sunday afternoon, and everybody went out about three or 400 of us. We went and we marched around the building and we prayed, and we praise God, and we laid hands on it and sprinkle Holy water and set up burnt offerings, you know, we just named it and claimed it and framed it.

[00:09:56.310] And we just knew that this is what God has given us. And we bid we put a bid on the property for \$5.2 million, \$5.2 million, three years ago. And during the course of events, we were outbid. We were outbid. We were outbid after we marched around it, after we prayed about it, after we fasted for it, after we laid hands on it, after we put Holy water on it, after we set up burnt offerings, and some people sacrificed their first born, all kinds of stuff after all of that.

[00:10:28.500] And then we lost the property. We lost it. And that was probably the most difficult. What it was. It was the most difficult disappointment that I have been through, not only in 16 years of Ministry, but in 45 years of life. It was the biggest disappointment I've ever had. I went into a period of depression for several months actually. There was a time in the last three years when I I wanted to leave that church. I felt as though maybe I had led them as far as I could lead them. And maybe God wanted someone else to come in.

[00:11:19.630] I was that disappointed and discouraged. During that time, I was very, very depressed. I found myself sometimes just just kind of shutting off, just sometimes spending long times, long periods by myself and not wanting to be with anybody just very, very depressed. I

think if someone had offered me the opportunity to go to another church, I would have gone. I was that discouraged and I didn't understand it because first of all, I believe God has said it. Secondly, I didn't understand it because it was something that we thought would glorify God.

[00:11:56.600] In other words, we were asking for good stuff. It wasn't like you know something your moral or whatever. And we believe that God was going to do it. A great part of my discouragement, a great part of my depression was was pride and ego and embarrassment. I would sometimes see it in my mind. I'd see us marching around that building with hundreds of people following me and they're following me. And here I go out beating the marks and everything. And then it didn't happen. And I had stood on Sunday night said, God said, this and God is going to give us this and God is going to do this.

[00:12:35.620] And it didn't happen. I was embarrassed. That was a shame. I was discouraged. In the midst of that, I had to make some fundamental decisions. And one was in spite of all of that, I wouldn't turn from God and I was hurt and I was broken. I was confused. It didn't make sense to me that God would allow that to happen. I had one lady in our church coming in and she said to me, she said, You're a false prophet.

[00:13:19.480] And I don't think anything in my life has ever hurt me more than that lady saying that to me and she's accusing me, she said, You're a false prophet. One woman said, how could God allow this to happen? One person said, she said, I don't understand. She said, you said. You said that, God. You said that God said this was our property. You you said God gave it to us.

You said God was going to do it. About a month ago, about a month ago, I got a phone call and the phone call said that the same property that we had looked at three years before.

[00:14:13.430] Probably we've marched around, prayed on everything. I got a phone call to that same property was now back on the market. As a matter of fact, the people who would outbid us could not perform. And the property dropped out of escrow and then went into foreclosure and the property was back on the market. And in three weeks time we began negotiation about that same building. We had one week to raise \$100,000. The rate is about 114. Last Friday morning we closed escrow on the same building three years ago, we lost and we picked up the keys and bought that property, not for 5.2, as we had bid three years before, but 2.5. Now listen to me. Listen.

[00:15:30.590] That story is not about a building. That's what I want you to see. It's not about a building. That story is about the discipline of waiting.

[00:15:52.400] We tried during those years, several times to get into other property, try to buy other property, and God just kept closing doors. God just kept closing doors. God just kept closing doors. It's not about a building. It's about what God was doing and is doing in the lives of His people. Now listen to me. I don't care what you're waiting on right now. I don't care what you're wrestling with struggling with right now. You need to know it's not about that. It's not about that. It's about what God is trying to do in your life.

[00:16:40.460] And a part of what He's trying to do is to stretch you and grow you and equip you in the discipline of waiting. Let's go back to the Psalm one more time. Psalm 40. We'll close our time together this week with the discipline of waiting. Psalm 40 the psalmist says I waited patiently for the Lord, and he inclined unto me and heard my cry. Verse two says this he brought me up out of a horrible pit, out of the miry clay and set my feet upon a rock and established my going.

[00:17:57.920] He has put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God. Many shall see it and fear and shall trust in the Lord. The psalmist David talks about having learned about the discipline of waiting.

[00:18:26.580] He learned that that God is too big to be bound by our prescribed methods of His actions. God's too big to be limited to acting and responding the way we think He does, the way we think He should when we think He should. And yet He has learned that in spite of all that God was still in control.

[00:18:57.140] He says this. He says he brought me up out of a horrible pit. He speaks about a situation in which he was. He speaks about his, his vulnerability, his vulnerability to Satan. He says I was I was down. Again, he paints the picture.

[00:19:16.200] He says, I was in this deep pit. And back in those days, sometimes pits were used to keep prisoners as you went through a land and you you took that land one of the ways that they would keep prisoners. They dig these deep pits and put the prisoners down in there, he says

it was a horrible pit, and the word horrible has to do with noisy. One implication is one indication is that he was as a soldier with full gear on full battle gear down in this pit, and the noise of his gear and noise of his armor around him was clinging in the solitude of that pit.

[00:19:50.940] He says, I was down in the pit. But he says this, I waited on God and God brought me up out of the pit. He says there was like being stuck in the mud. It was as though it was as though not only was I in the pit, but I'm in the pit stuck. I couldn't climb out, couldn't crawl out, couldn't calculate my way out. It's like being stuck on hold. And that's part of the problem with waiting for God, because you tend to think that you're stuck on hold.

[00:20:27.360] Have you ever called somebody and they put you on hold? You know? I hate it when they try to give you a little music in the background, as though that's gonna sooth. They're just trying to make you forget about how long it's gonna take them to come back on the line. But have you ever felt like God put you on hold? And so here you are, stuck in that spot, feeling like God has forgotten that you're stuck. Waiting on God and you hear nothing from him. The only noise you hear is the noise of your own attempts to get out.

[00:21:05.090] He said I was stuck in this pit. And of course, in that pit, he's vulnerable to continue to that. Exposed while waiting. And that's because one of the most opportune times for the enemy to attack us. It's while we're waiting on God. Because that's when he attacks us with doubts that God is not going to show up. Did you miss that? Give it to you again. We're vulnerable. We're vulnerable while we're waiting in this pit, you're exposed. I mean, think about it. Think about here you are.

[00:21:46.680] Here you are down in a pit. And let's say the enemy comes along and there you are in the pit. It's not like you can run away, you know. I mean, it's literally like shooting ducks in a pond. You're vulnerable. While you're waiting for deliverance, you're vulnerable. And that's often the times when the enemy attacks us most with doubts. With this, the way he did with me with this discouragement. My head was filled with all kinds of doubts. Well, now it's like when the enemy, when the serpent attacked Eve back in the garden, his attack was now, did God really say that. Some of you are right there right now you've sensed the God has said something and you're you're struggling with the doubts. Well, maybe he didn't really say that.

[00:22:43.190] And so while we're waiting on God, we're vulnerable to the enemy. He says, I was there in a pit in a pit, vulnerable to the enemy. Watch this now, with the bottom of that pit not only was vulnerable to the enemy, but watch this now, even there in the pit, he had a view of God. Now think about this. If you're down in the pit, the only view, the only view when you're down in a pit, the only view that is acceptable is to look up. So it says this, he says, I waited patiently for the Lord.

[00:23:28.480] Actually, the phrase means I waited, and while I waited, and while waiting, I waited patiently. It's a repetition of waiting. He's saying this. Waiting, waiting, did I wait on God? It's the idea of an extended period of time. He says, it's like this. I waited and I waited and I waited and I waited and I waited. And I then waited. And when I got through with that, I waited some more. I waited. I waited. Has anybody ever been there? Just kind of waiting. Ad infinitum ad nauseum. I waited and waited and waited and waited.

[00:24:19.360] He says this, I waited and I waited patiently. Now there's the problem. There's the problem. Watch this now, because while he's waiting while he's waiting, suggesting an upward direction, I'm waiting on God. He's in the pit, waiting on God waiting and waiting and waiting. He's looking up to God waiting and waiting and waiting. Watch this.

[00:24:49.520] But while he has that upward direction, there is an unexpected development going on. Don't you miss this? Because here's the whole hook to the discipline of waiting. Here it is. While he was waiting, God was doing something, and the emphasis is not what God was doing to the pit. It is not what God was doing to his circumstances even. The emphasis of the text says that God was doing something in his life.

[00:25:16.140] Look what he says. He says, I waited and I waited patiently patiently patiently. I waited, listen. And while waiting unexpectedly, listen, he was developing patience. Don't miss that. While you're waiting God's doing something in your life, if you allow Him. The Bible suggests us that one of the fruits of the Spirit, one of the fruits of the Spirit is patience. Now listen. You never. You never. You never that's three nevers, you never measure or gauge spiritual maturity by spiritual gifts. Did you get that? Spiritual maturity is measured by spiritual fruit.

[00:26:06.550] That was the problem that the Corinthians had. They thought that spiritual maturity was about spiritual gifts. And they had all spiritual gifts. And yet Paul said, now, you know, I wish I could talk to you as mature. But you're still babes in Christ. Had all gifts. So spiritual gifts are never an indication of spiritual maturity. But spiritual fruit suggests growth and

maturity. And the Bible says that one of the gifts of the Spirit is patience. Patience, patience. Now, here's the hook. Here's the hook. Waiting is a required course.

[00:26:40.960] It's not an additional optional extra. It's not an elective. Every one of us in here will go through some period and oftentimes many periods in our life in our walk with the Lord where we find ourselves waiting on God. Now, if you're waiting on God and you must wait anyway. You certainly need to learn how to wait patiently. Would you agree with that? See, waiting is not the option. It's not like. Well, I don't think I'm gonna wait on God. I'm not gonna wait on it.

[00:27:11.450] Oh, yes, you will. Oh, yeah, you wait whether you like it or not, you're going to wait. But the anguish is just taken out of that waiting as we learn and develop patience. Now, many of us would agree that since patience is a fruit of the spirit, we all ought to be patient. Anybody think you shouldn't be patient? And anybody think that you want all of the fruits of the Spirit except patience? We all to be willing to have patience right? We ought to have patience, right? We believe we ought to have patience.

[00:27:38.730] We know we ought to have patience. We desire to have patience. We want to be patience. We want God to give us patience and we want them to give us patience right now. I want it. God I want my patience right now. Now, let me ask you a question. How many of you really want to learn patience? Let me see your hands. Somebody say, let's see what its going to say next. Somebody raise their hand like this. If I can show you how to really gain patience,

okay. I can show you how to really gain patience, you'll be far along the road with learning how to wait. You ready for it? You ready? Turn to Romans 5.

[00:28:21.030] Now I hope you look around. I want you to get the name of everybody who raised their hands that they want to learn patience. Are you with me? Turn to Romans 5. Romans 5. Romans 5. Patience. Patience. Patience. Notice if you will in Romans 5. The links in this chain and the progressive nature of spiritual maturity. Verse five says, and hope make us not a shame because the love of God is shared abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost, which is given unto you when we were yet without strength and due time Christ died for the ungodly. On and on and on.

[00:29:11.020] Now here's the point. There is a chain. There's a chain of development here. Now, what you just said is that you want a piece of that chain. You want patience not just to wait on God but to learn how to wait patiently. Let's see how you do that. Well, let's go back. Hope is a result of experience says verse four and experience is the result of patience says verse four. But verse three says that patience is a result of tribulation. Trials.

[00:29:55.980] Problems. Hard times, tough decisions, difficult dilemmas. Watch the chain again. I learned patience when I go through stuff. Andre cross. Andre cross headed. Andre cross had it. Andre had it. Andre said this. Andre said Andre said. He said, If I never had a problem, Andre said I wouldn't know God could solve them. Think about that.

[00:30:29.240] He wrote a little song called To God Be the Glory. He said, If I never had a problem, I wouldn't know God could solve them. Paul says this. Paul says a part of the development of our walk with God is that we go through stuff. We go through stuff. Tribulation. Tribulation. Same tribulation that Jesus meant when Jesus says in this life he shall have stuff. Problem, difficulty. And he says this now, as you go through that, don't focus on the stuff. You know there's something greater, something bigger, something more significant happening in your life.

[00:31:04.690] And that is that God is developing Christian character in your life. So that through those that stuff of tribulation, I learned patience. Through that patience, I gain experience with God. What kind of testimonies do you have of the things that God has brought you through? Can you look back at any point in your life? Listen, listen. And you look back at any point in your life and see anything that God brought you through that no one else could have brought you through that experience. And I promise you, whatever it was, it was no cakewalk.

[00:31:51.880] It wasn't a picnic or party for some tribulation. Let me ask you a question. Don't raise your hand on this. Watch this. Right now, even as we speak, what are you trusting God to do? Listen. That no one else can do so that when he does it, you will know that God did it. Give it to you again. What are you trusting God to do that no one else can do. So when it's done, when it happens, you look back and you won't have to flip a coin to decide who did that.

[00:32:36.440] You won't have to draw stars and just figure out who did that. You will not have to call the psychic hotline to find out who did that. You know that no one could pull that off. But

God. The psalmist says, the psalmist says, I waited and I waited patiently. The unexpected development on waiting on God is that God is strengthening your character. Listen. While you are waiting on him, he's teaching you how to wait on him. Now, I want to encourage you to learn that lesson. Well, because if you flunk that class, you will have to repeat it again and again and again and again.

[00:33:26.160] Because that class is a requirement. Here's the last thing. While waiting on God, he learned. Listen. He learned victory from the pit while waiting on God. He learned victory from the pit. He says this.

[00:33:47.270] I waited on God and he inclined unto me. He inclined unto me. He inclined unto me. He says this that he inclined unto me and he heard me. The word incline means this. It's like if you were talking to someone, you were trying to get their attention and you call them you call the name. And they did this. They leaned over. They leaned over. You're trying to tell them something. And they leaned over. The word incline literally means to bend toward or lean toward. He says, this, he says, as I watch this.

[00:34:15.850] Now watch this. As I waited on God, I called to him. And when I called to him, God leaned toward me. God, He heard me. It's the idea of undivided attention, he says, I waited on God. God gave me His attention. I got God's attention while waiting on Him. Look what it says. He says this. He heard me brought me up out of the pit.

[00:34:43.020] Look at what it says. He says this in verse three, he has put a new song in my mouth. I love that. Listen. He has put a new song in my mouth. The word the word put a new song phrase means this. It literally means it literally means to create a new song. It's the idea of composing a new song. He's saying this God, God, not only heard my cry, not only delivered me.

[00:35:20.970] But he says this. He brought me up. He allowed me to create a new song. A song of testimony, a song of witnessing of His power. He said, God allowed me to compose a new song. My little boy, my little boy, bless him. You all still playing for my son.

[00:35:35.520] Pray for my son. Pray, pray. My son. He's got this creative thing. And he makes up these songs just on the spirit. It doesn't have to have a melody. Doesn't have to rhyme. And you know we just [inaudible] to the song. And so one day he and I were playing and he was running, and I was trying to catch him. He's running.

[00:35:55.690] And so he he just cracks up when I can't catch him, he just cracks up or laughs. And so he he said, Daddy, he said, nah, nah, nah, nah, nah. You can't get me. Nah, nah, nah, nah, nah. I can run fast.

[00:36:11.080] Let me just hold with this is a song thing, you know, it's a song thing. And I'm saying, he's just making up stuff. You know, nah, nah, nah, nah you're too old. You can't run fast. You can't get me. Now he's just making up stuff, declaring his victory and preventing me from catching him. That's kind of what God does. You wait on him. And he he gets you to a point

where you almost where you get where you get sassy with Satan when the enemy thought he had you. When the devil thought when the devil was counting you out.

[00:37:07.420] And he expected you to give up on God and you turn to the devil and you say nah, nah, nah, nah, nah. You can't get me. Nah, nah, nah, nah, nah. You though you had me. Nah, nah, nah, nah, nah. God has delivered me. He puts a new song in your mouth.

[00:37:37.750] He says, I will wait on him. And people will hear of it. Watch this now. They will hear of him, and they will trust God. Not only is that issue in your life, not about you. It's not about the stuff. It's about what God is doing in your life. But it's also about what God wants to do through your life. Let me give you that again. Not only is the issue that you're waiting on God for. Not only is it not about that issue with that stuff, it is about what God wants to do in your life.

[00:38:16.210] Listen. But it is also about what God wants to do through your life. It's about the testimony that he wants to give you. that's going to encourage someone else turn to the Lord. Kind of like what said in the gospel. And Jesus said, Let your light so shine that men may see your good works and they may glorify God. Psalmist says Men will see how God delivered me. Men will see the benefit of me waiting on God and what God did in my life. Then he said, and they will put their trust in Him.

[00:38:56.060] I had a friend of mine who heard about us getting that building minister friend of mine and called me with tears. And he said, Man, I heard about what God did about the building.

He says, you know, I've been waiting on God to do something. He says, you know, I think I can hold on a little while longer.

[00:39:15.960] No credit to us. Okay, so we didn't do anything. Matter of fact, we gave up. We doubted God. We were struggling with waiting, just like everybody else was. But when God did it, it became a testimony and a witness to others that they may trust in Him. What are you waiting for? What are you willing to wait for? Right job, spouse, a financial issue. I don't know. What are you waiting for?

[00:40:02.100] I challenge you with this. As you wait, know that it's not about that issue. Know that God is trying to do something in your life that will draw you closer to him. Know that God is trying to develop that discipline of waiting in your life so that you might discipline yourself to godliness. What are you waiting on God to do? Maybe a better question is, how are you waiting? What is your state of mind while you're waiting? You're gonna get discouraged sometimes. Like I do. Sometimes you're going to wonder like I did.

[00:40:57.190] Is it really worth waiting? Or maybe you're gonna make the big mistake of trying to help good old God out. God moving kind of slow. So here we're going to help him out here. You know Abraham did that didn't you? Know that, didn't you, Abraham? God promised Abraham something and God moved too slow. That's where Abraham decided. Well now I know God said it, but God needs a little help here. So, his wife, Sarah, came in and Sarah has said, Now, Abraham, I got an idea. Got an idea. I know God's a good God, but I got an idea. Got promised a child. I have an idea.

[00:41:32.580] She says, Abraham, we have this handmaiden. Sister Hagar. Abraham, why don't you go in? I love those biblical phrases. Why don't you go in to Hagar? And we'll produce a child that way. God said he was gonna do what God hasn't done it yet.

[00:41:55.780] Been old these many years. I'm getting kind of old. You kind of over the heel yourself. Why don't you go into Hagar? Let's help God out. Now, remember, I Abraham is 100 years old. On his last go round round the mountain, and his wife gives him the opportunity to go into this young maid, Abraham said, with all the spirituality that he could, Abraham said. Sounds good to me. Abraham made the tragic mistake of getting ahead of God. Haven't we all done that? I know I have. I just felt like God just couldn't make it without my help.

[00:42:47.960] I give him a good old helping hand. Some of us right now, right now, some of us are paying for decisions that we made in the past because we move too quickly and we got ahead of God and we didn't wait. What are you waiting for?

[00:43:17.230] How are you waiting in your social life? How are you waiting? How committed are you to waiting on God in your love life? How holy are you willing to remain while you wait? See if your relationship with God does not hit you on that level, you're not where you are to be. Are you willing? Are you willing to wait on God sexually? It's got to be on that level. We could close this little book and say, Praise the Lord for David. He was a good man. He waited, may the Lord bless him.

[00:44:06.390] But what about you? What is that area in which God is trying to teach you the discipline of waiting and what he's trying to teach you patience to strengthen you? You may be just about willing to give in and throw in the towel and get ahead of God. Psalmist says this. I waited and waited and waited and waited. But in the end, God answered. The discipline of waiting. Take a moment now. Take a moment now and look at your life and what area are you waiting? Maybe there's a decision that you're about to make.

[00:45:03.320] Maybe you're at a crossroads and you're facing a couple of options about your career. Maybe you're coming upon graduation. What are you going to do? What do you. You've been in this campus for several years now in the comfort coziness of this campus, and you're about ready to go out into the real world. What are you going to do with your life? You may have some opportunities right now, but is that, is that the decision that God want you to make? Is that the direction God wants to take you in?

[00:45:30.920] And are you willing to wait for that confirmation? And rather than trusting God to give you the strength to handle that relationship in a manner that brings honor to him, you jump ahead of him. What are you waiting for God? What are you waiting on?

[00:45:51.440] The discipline of waiting may just be the most difficult discipline of all. We're vulnerable to the Lord while we wait to the enemy while we're waiting. And yet we have a view of God because we're on hold. We can't go forward or backward. We're on hold. But as you wait for Him, He will give you victory. It's an old song in the tradition of black gospel music. And there's a line on that song that says, Teach me Lord teach me, Lord, teach me, Lord, how to wait.

[00:46:31.180] Maybe that's what God is trying to teach someone today. This most important discipline, the discipline of waiting. Father, in the name of Jesus, we thank you and bless you, Lord, for your presence and power in our lives. Lord we studied the last few days about various disciplines that promote and produce Godliness in our lives. The discipline of praise, the discipline of stillness, discipline of waiting on you O God, the various things that you're trying to do in our lives. Father, now we're available to you as we discipline our desires to the end that you are our ultimate goal.

[00:47:33.220] We want you even more than that for which we wait. And so teach us, O Lord, to wait on thee. Bless you. Thank you. And I praise you for these students. And I thank you and praise you for what you're doing in their lives. I pray that you would continue to manifest your realness in their lives. You would draw them closer to yourself. If you would by your Spirit of God, make them, develop them mature and grow them into the image of your son Jesus.

[00:48:18.440] If they might walk in Godliness that their lights might so shine that this dark world would see their good works to the end that you might be glorified. And so we wait and trust and desire. And we're still and we praise your Holy name. Amen. God bless you.