

COMMUNITY GROUP QUESTIONS

1 In Psalm 40:1, David writes about an experience where he had to wait. Can you think of a time you had to wait on an answer or outcome? When it comes to “waiting patiently for the Lord” what letter grade would you give yourself and why?

2 What would waiting on the Lord practically look like? What insights can you gain about waiting from the following verses? Isaiah 40:30-31; Psalm 37:7, 9, 34; Psalm 62:1, 5; Psalm 27:14

3 How can we determine the balance between trusting completely in the Lord versus using legitimate means or methods?

4 Why is pragmatism (if it works it must be okay) dangerous? Do ungodly methods sometimes “work?”

5 Read the story of King Saul in 1Samuel 15. Why was he tempted not to wait on the Lord? Why are you tempted to take things into your own hands?

6 In the story of Joseph (Gen. 41:1) and Paul (Acts 24:27), why do you think God made his choice servants wait, especially when they could have accomplished so much if they were free?

7 Is there someone you know who is in a waiting time of life? What could you do to encourage them to wait on God?

8 What's the worst “stuck” story you've experienced – stuck in a snow drift, in a ditch, in a pond? In Psalm 40, David recounts how he was stuck in a miry bog (v. 2). In times when we're stuck, we need to trust in the Lord, not the proud and not false gods or lies (v. 4).

9 When God seems to take too long to answer to too long to deliver you from the miry bog, what false gods or lies would you tend to turn toward?

10 What has helped you in developing your trust in the Lord?

11 Read Psalm 40:1-5 and notice how the psalmist recounts God's past deliverance. When we find ourselves overwhelmed by the disorder around us, it's partially because we have forgotten all that God has done for us in the past. Can you share a time in your past when you clearly saw God rescue you or someone else?

12 In Psalm 40:6-8, David responds to God's gracious act of deliverance by dedicating himself to the Lord. He remembered that God preferred obedience from the heart above empty religious rituals.

13 What do these verses teach us about the Old Testament sacrificial system? Also note: Psalm 50:8-15; 51:16-19; Proverbs 14:9; Isaiah 1:11-17.

14 What was David's approach to God's will? Can the same be said of you? How would you describe your approach to God's will?

15 What is the relationship between delighting in God's will and depositing God's law in your heart? What are the implications of this for our lives?

16 Read Psalm 40:6-10 and see if you can identify the psalmists response to God's past deliverance. What should be our response when we see God rescuing us or those around us? What are some ways we publicly speak of God's love, faithfulness, and salvation?

17 Read Psalm 40:11-17 and observe how the psalmist is in trouble once again. Every time God rescues us, we very quickly find ourselves in need of rescue again. That's what points us toward our need for final salvation. Read Hebrews 10:5-10 and notice how Psalm 40 is quoted and personalized by Jesus. How can people like us be fully and finally rescued?