

WHEN GOD DOESN'T MAKE SENSE

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When God Seems Late

John 11

THE BIG IDEA:

With God, a _____ season
is never a _____ season

“Now a man named Lazarus was sick. He was from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. . . So the sisters sent word to Jesus, ‘Lord, the one you love is sick.’”

Three Things To Remember When Waiting On God

1. God’s _____ are not necessarily God’s _____
“When he heard this, Jesus said, ‘This sickness will not end in death. No, it is for God’s glory so that God’s Son may be glorified through it.’”
John 11:4

2. If God always _____ your _____ He’d never have an _____ to _____ them.
“Jesus said to her, ‘Your brother will rise again.’ Martha answered, ‘I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day.’”
John 11:23-24

Memory Verse

“Jesus said to her, ‘I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?’”

John 11:25-26

3. While you’re _____ God is _____.
Sometimes you’ll _____ . Other times _____ .

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MY NEXT STEP IS TO . . .

- Place my trust in Jesus Christ for the first time today
- Memorize John 11:25-26
- Ask God to help me to trust His timing
- Commit to attend, as much as possible, each weekend during the “When God Doesn’t Make Sense” series
- Get the most out of this series by signing up to join a CORE group



Be sure and invite a friend, family member or co-worker to join you next week at ERBC!

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Discussion Questions - Week # 1

COREGROUPS

QUICK REVIEW

Thinking back to the sermon this weekend "When God Seems Late," in a sentence or two summarize the main point.

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

GETTING STARTED

1. What is the longest thing you've waited in line for intentionally or unintentionally? How long did you wait?

2. How do you think our culture and technology contributes to our ability or inability to wait for God?

DIGGING DEEPER

3. Read Luke 2:25-38. In what way do the two characters Simeon and Anna exemplify the discipline of waiting?

What factors do you think led to their perseverance in waiting?

Do you think Simeon or Anna were surprised by the discovery of what they were waiting for?

What do you think they would have missed out on if they hadn't continued to wait on God?

4. Read 1 Samuel 16:1;10-13 & 2 Samuel 5:1-5. The time between King David's anointing and appointing was roughly 15 years. Why do you suppose God waited so long to make David King?

Do you think it would have made a difference for David if God anointed him king the year before he was appointed, instead of 15 years?

Read 1 Samuel 24:1-10. While David knew God had called him to be King, why do you think he chose not to slay Saul, while he was answering nature's call?

How do you tell when God wants you to wait on Him, and when God is presenting you with the opportunity for which you've been waiting?

5. Read Psalm 27:1-14. In this Psalm, David encourages us to be confident and strong. Yet, often, the longer we wait for God, the less confident we feel. What are things we can do to maintain our confidence that God will act, even when his intervention is long delayed?

What were the things David experiencing that may have caused him to lose confidence that God would intervene?

Twice in verse 14, David encourages us to wait for the Lord. What does it mean to you to wait for the Lord? Share an instance in your life when you have had to wait for the Lord?

TAKING IT HOME

7. What's something that you're currently waiting for God to do for you? How can the group be praying for you?

8. What steps can you take this week to be proactive, while you wait on God's provision?

PRAYER REQUESTS