

**What To Do When You Wait**  
**John 5:1-8**  
**Pastor Scott George**  
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**What others are saying about waiting:**

"Second only to suffering, waiting may be the greatest teacher and trainer in Godliness, maturity, and genuine spirituality most of us ever encounter."

-Richard Hendrix

"Those who do not hope cannot wait; but if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it."

-Charles H. Spurgeon

"God works through our waiting to strengthen our character through weakness, to develop our peace of mind by trusting him in chaos, and to teach us that we can glorify him just as much by waiting on him as we can by serving him."

-Wayne Stiles

"Biblically, waiting is not just something we have to do until we get what we want. Waiting is part of the process of becoming what God wants us to be."

-John Ortberg

**What To Do When You Wait**

**John 5:1-8,**

*Some time later, Jesus went up to Jerusalem for one of the Jewish festivals. 2 Now there is in Jerusalem near the Sheep Gate a pool, which in Aramaic is called Bethesda and which is surrounded by five covered colonnades.*

*3 Here a great number of disabled people used to lie — the blind, the lame, the paralyzed — and they waited for the moving of the waters. 4 From time to time an angel of the Lord would come down and stir up the waters. The first one into the pool after each such disturbance would be cured of whatever disease they had.*

*5 One who was there had been an invalid for thirty-eight years. 6 When Jesus saw him lying there and learned that he had been in this condition for a long time, he asked him, "Do you want to get well?"*

*7 "Sir," the invalid replied, "I have no one to help me into the pool when the water is stirred. While I am trying to get in, someone else goes down ahead of me."*

*8 Then Jesus said to him, "Get up! Pick up your mat and walk."*

**Bethesda – Kindness**

**38 Years**  
**13,870 Days**  
**322,880 Hours**  
**19,972,800 Minutes**  
**5 Covered Colonnades**

## **How to Wait on Your Miracle**

### **1. Listen carefully.**

**Proverbs 1:33,**

*"... but whoever listens to me will live in safety and be at ease, without fear of harm."*

### **2. Keep faith Alive.**

**2 Timothy 4:7,**

*I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.*

**Romans 1:17,**

*For in the gospel the righteousness of God is revealed—a righteousness that is by faith from first to last, just as it is written: "The righteous will live by faith."*

### **3. Cultivate a heart of Worship.**

**Acts 16:25–26,**

*About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them. 26 Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken. At once all the prison doors flew open, and everyone's chains came loose.*

### **4. Focus on God's Faithfulness.**

**Lamentations 3:17–25,**

*I have been deprived of peace; I have forgotten what prosperity is. 18 So I say, "My splendor is*

*gone and all that I had hoped from the Lord."*

*19 I remember my affliction and my wandering, the bitterness and the gall. 20 I well remember them, and my soul is downcast within me. 21*

*Yet this I call to mind and therefore I have hope: 22 Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. 23 They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.*

*24 I say to myself, "The Lord is my portion; therefore I will wait for him." 25 The Lord is good to those whose hope is in him, to the one who seeks him.*

### **5. Trust in God's sovereign Purpose.**

**Jeremiah 17:7–8,**

*"But blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence is in him. 8 They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream.*

*It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit."*

### **In case you missed it...**

#### **Answers:**

1. Listen
2. Alive
3. Worship
4. Faithfulness
5. Trust