



GENESIS

The Book of Beginnings

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LESSON 11: EGG TIMER FAITH

A. CENTRAL QUESTION

Most Christians are willing to trust God for a short period of time, but like setting an egg timer, they tend to lose patience and take matters into their own hands. How can we as Christians learn to wait on the Lord when he remains silent for long periods of time? How can we avoid having an egg timer faith?

B. SELF-TEST

	YES	NO
I am very patient		
I can be patient if it doesn't take too long		
This self-test is too long		
I need to work on being more patient		

C. THE TEXT: GENESIS 45:7-8; 50:20

*"But God sent me ahead of you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to save your lives by a great deliverance. "So then, it was not you who sent me here, but God. He made me father to Pharaoh, lord of his entire household and ruler of all Egypt."
(Gen. 45:7-8 NIV)*

"You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives." (Gen. 50:20 NIV)

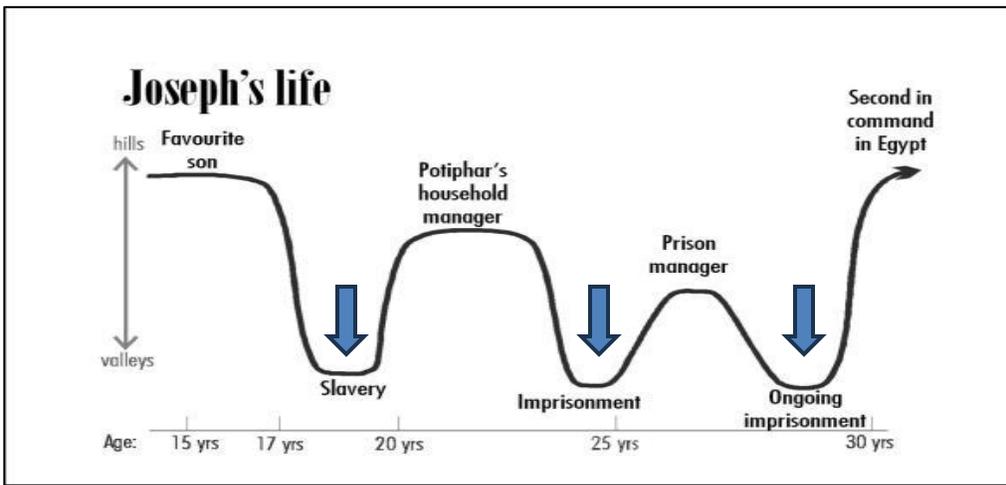


Figure 1: Joseph learned to wait for God's timing

D. OTHER RELATED BIBLE TEXTS

James 5:7-8 (NIV): "Be patient, then, brothers and sisters, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop, patiently waiting for the autumn and spring rains. You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near."

Romans 12:12 (NIV): "Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer."

Galatians 6:9 (NIV): "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."

Hebrews 10:36 (NIV): "You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised."

1 Corinthians 13:4 (NIV): "Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud."

Colossians 3:12 (NIV): "Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience."

2 Peter 3:9 (NIV): "The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance."

E. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Why is it that Americans in general tend to be impatient?
2. What circumstances tend to make you impatient?
3. What does it mean to “wait for the Lord” as in Psalm 27:14?
4. How can being impatient hurt us spiritually?
5. What was it about Joseph that enabled him to wait patiently for God? (See Genesis 45:7-8; 50:20).

F. APPLICATION: HOW LEARNING TO WAIT ON GOD HELPS YOU

1. Waiting can get me in _____.

John 11:5-6 “Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. Yet when he heard that Lazarus was sick, he stayed where he was two more days.”

2. Waiting can bring me a sense of _____.

Micah 7:7 "But as for me, I watch in hope for the LORD, I wait for God my Savior; my God will hear me."

3. Waiting can shift my focus from _____.

Ps. 46:10 "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."

4. Waiting can bring me _____.

Ps. 40:1-3 "I waited patiently for the LORD; he turned to me and heard my cry. He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; he set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand. He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God."

5. Waiting can _____.

Ps. 23:1-3a "The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, he restores my soul."

6. Waiting can bring relief _____ the situation is resolved.

Isa. 26:3 "You will keep in perfect peace him whose mind is steadfast, because he trusts in you."

God has set his times. It is not for us to know them. Indeed, we cannot know them. We must wait for them.

G. DIGGING DEEPER

For more about this subject go to: "What Does the Bible Say About Patience?"



<<https://www.gotquestions.org/Bible-patience.html>>

