RICIAZO Another Beautiful Life

PODCAST GUIDE

This guide is intended to be used as a complement to my podcast "Another Beautiful Life." Please take some time to be contemplative in your answers. My suggestion is to ask the Holy Spirit to lead you through it before you begin. I'm already praying you hear His voice clearly.

## Episode 19 - WAIT is a four-letter word

Waiting on something you've been praying on for a long time can be hard. But waiting gives God time to work things out in us and in others - things worth waiting for. And waiting gives us time to become who we are meant to be.

1) What is something that you've been praying for and you find yourself still waiting?

2) How are you asking God to show up in this particular need?

3) What are some of the things you've done to try to get God to move a little quicker in answering your prayers? (e.g., bargaining, begging, making promises)

In the waiting, God says, "Be still and know that I am God" (Psalm 46:10). "Know" in Hebrew is *yada*. It refers to a special kind of knowledge, to perceive, to understand, to know by experience. It is both seeing and knowing (not just hearing with the ears), but to discover by intimacy. "Be still" is the Hebrew word is *raphah*. The meaning is to be feeble, be weakened, be idle, slack; to relax, to withdraw. It's almost as if it's an actual ceasing of activity. Then in being still, I am trusting in who I know God to be, and this allows me to withdraw my begging and pleading for His healing. Because 1) I know He is a God of compassion and mercy for the hurting, and 2) I know that He certainly *can* heal by any means He chooses - by medicine or by miracle.

4) What is it that you need to "know" about God in order to "be still" in peace while you wait?

When King David was waiting on God to show up to deliver him from suffering, he says, "So now, O Lord, for what do I wait? My Hope is in You." Psalm 39:7. That's exactly where I was. Asking the Lord, "Now, for what do I wait? You told me to wait, God. Of that I am sure. What was the waiting *for?*"

5) In being still and waiting, are you willing to surrender what you may think the outcome may be in your waiting so that God may work His good for you? What might that possibly be?

Let me assure you, friend, God hears your prayers and the cries of your heart. Let me also encourage you to trust that He will show up and act on your behalf - for your good and for His glory. He is inviting you to be still. And in that stillness, to know Him intimately and experientially that He is God over all things; that His name will be exalted among all the nations and in all the earth...in all things. Here, we get the privilege of knowing Him more intimately, more keenly, more closely. Here we are comforted that He is working all things out in His most perfect way that His name may be exalted among the people. *His* way will be the most beautiful way! The most fruitful way! And nothing will be wasted! Nothing!

6) Write a prayer to God about that thing you're waiting on. Tell Him what you're skeptical of, what you're afraid of, what you're not sure of. Tell Him what you need and ask Him to increase your faith to believe that He's working all things for your good and for His glory. Ask Him to strengthen you as you wait.

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