

While You Wait

Waiting—it can be so difficult! But God has benefits and blessings for us when we learn to wait. Below you will find several verses from the Old Testament on waiting. You'll also see the word for wait, in the original language, used in that verse. Since these are all Old Testament verses it is the transliteration of the Hebrew word. The words hope and wait are often used interchangeably in the Old Testament.

What are some practical things can you DO while you WAIT?

1. Draw close to (attach) yourself to the Lord. – Psalm 27:13-14

qavah - to wait, to look for, to hope for; to bind together –the root meaning is that of twisting a strand of rope or cord; to be strong (for the notion of binding fast is applied to strength).

2. Know that God acts for those who wait upon Him. – Isaiah 64:4, Lamentations 3:25

hakah - to wait, tarry, to adhere to; indicates delaying an action; refers to longing or hoping for something to happen

(Isaiah 64:4)

qavah - to wait, to look for, to hope for; to bind together –the root meaning is that of twisting a strand of rope or cord; to be strong (for the notion of binding fast is applied to strength).

(Lamentations 3:25)

3. Be still and quiet. Be confident in God. Pour out your heart to Him in prayer.– Psalm 62:1-2, 8

duwmiyah - silence, a quiet wait in silence and rest; silent expectation of divine aid, confidence placed in God.

4. Know He is restoring your strength and/or making you stronger. – Psalm 31:24

yahal - to wait, to hope, to be patient, to trust; in Psalms frequently means to wait with hope.

5. Know God's steadfast love is upon you. – Psalm 33:22

yahal - to wait, to hope, to be patient, to trust; in Psalms frequently means to wait with hope.

6. Know He will answer your prayers. –Psalm 38:15

yahal - to wait, to hope, to be patient, to trust; in Psalms frequently means to wait with hope.

7. Praise Him! – Psalm 42:11, 71:14

yahal - to wait, to hope, to be patient, to trust; in Psalms frequently means to wait with hope.

8. Be in His Word. – Psalm 119:74, Psalm 119:81, Psalm 130:5

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9. Make God your hiding place – your refuge. 119:114

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10. Rehearse Who God is and what He does/has done in your life. – Lamentations 3:21-24

yahal - to wait, to hope, to be patient, to trust; in Psalms frequently means to wait with hope.

11. Look to Him. Seek Him. – Micah 7:7

yahal to wait, to hope, to be patient, to trust; in Psalms frequently means to wait with hope.

12. Know He is providing and caring for you. – Psalm 145:15

sabar - to expect with hope and patience, to wait for or upon; to examine, by watching.

13. Obey Him. – Psalm 119:166-168

sabar - to expect with hope and patience, to wait for or upon; to examine, by watching.

14. Rejoice! (Dance) – Psalm 37:7

(There are two different words for waiting in this passage be still and wait patiently.)

be still - damam - to be silent, still, wait, make quiet.

wait patiently - giyl - to dance, twist, and whirl

15. Stand firm and know you are secure! –Psalm 18:33, 26:12, 31:7-8

amad - to set, to stand, remain, delay, endure; to be in a standing attitude; to set firmly, to sustain.

For Further Study: Read the story of Jehoshaphat in **2 Chronicles 20:1-33** and record any insights you discover on how to wait in the midst of a difficult situation. What do you notice Jehoshaphat and the Israelites "doing" while they wait? What does Jehoshaphat do first?

O my Strength, I will watch for you, for you, O God, are my fortress.

My God in his steadfast love will meet me; God will let me look in triumph on my enemies.

–Psalm 59:9