



**Transcription:**

The Audio clip for this document can be found at: <http://oasislife.org/Media/podcast/files/WaitingonGod.mp3>

**Waiting On God**

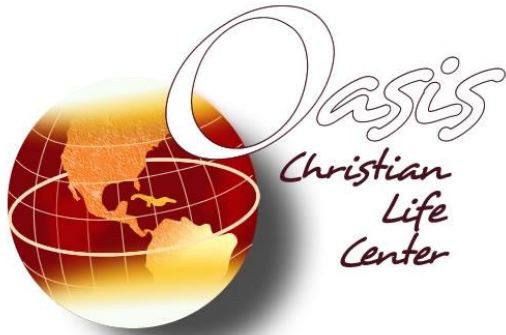
Steve Kuhlke

Now turn with me to Isaiah chapter 40. The title of my message today is “Waiting On God – Part 2”. Last week we looked at Isaiah Chapter 40 and we read the famous verse. I know many of you have it memorized. I want to re-read it again this Sunday just as a matter of using it as a point of reference. Isaiah 40: verse 31.

It reads.... “But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength. They shall mount up with wings like eagles. They shall run and not be weary. They shall walk and not faint.” Now we took off on the theme last Sunday... waiting on God. Waiting and understanding that there’s a process involved in seeing the will of God come to pass in your life. We know that anything good in this life, you’re going to have to be patient and wait for it. We know that to be true. Our society has a major problem with this. Our society is very enlightened in the natural as far as natural knowledge and understanding concepts and principles, science, and how things interrelate, cause and effect. Our society has the ability to see something good, how it comes about, how it develops over a period of time and see the end product, which is good. But we have a tendency in our society to want the end product without going through the process to get it. We’re even taught that. We watch commercials and it’s like you always have to stay on the cutting edge, on the tip of the wave, and always be riding that, and always be understanding of, and appreciating and always partaking of the final product without having gone through the process to get there.

Now there’s nothing wrong with having understanding. There’s nothing wrong with realizing that there is a process and seeing the end result and evaluating, comparing, and contrasting and that kind of stuff. But I’m telling you, you can’t find yourself as we say... always wanting the icing on the cake. Or the crème de la crème off the top. We can’t find ourselves doing that because if we do, we’ll have no foundations. Now I’m leading somewhere with all of this. If you always got the icing on the cake, then you’ll never appreciate the process involved in making that cake or the building process involved that brought about that good thing that you enjoy. In other words we can be kind of spoiled and just kind of have a lack of appreciation for what’s involved and for the cost involved in obtaining something good. And as we say with our children, we don’t want to turn them into “spoiled brats”. So we want our kids to appreciate things.

It’s very important. Kids now days, they have a knack for doing what I was talking about earlier. They see the best of the best. They see the end product and they race toward that with their minds, and



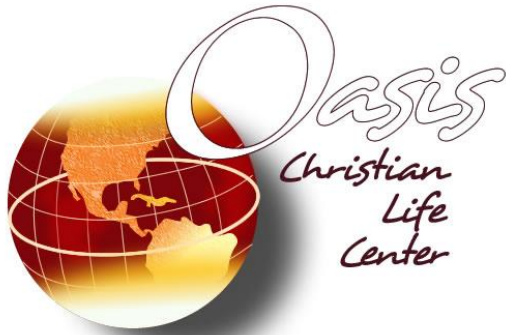
they want that. But you have to instill within them an understanding that things take time and that they have to appreciate what's involved in getting to that point. OK

Likewise, God, when he deals with us in our Christian walk and our spiritual relationship with him... He too wants us to understand and appreciate what's involved in getting to that height of Glory that we experience with Him. Now, I'm not talking about his carrot and stick thing that some people try to pass off on Christianity.. Or being a pawn in God's hand, you know that argument that people come up with. They say "well, what you're describing is like being a pawn in the hand of God." Well, my retort to that is. "I'd rather be a pawn in the hand of God, than a pawn in the hand of Satan."

Like King David. He threw himself at the mercies of God. He was faced with the choice of - you suffer this consequence or this consequence because of your sin. Kind David said "I will throw myself on the mercies of God." Because he knew that God will deal and judge sin, but God will also have mercy. See we need to apply that to our lives today. Better to be a pawn in the hand of God.

In life, we experience processes and they are sort of like a painting. Just think of someone painting on a canvas. They're painting a picture or portrait or something. On the canvas, the first thing they do is they put the background colors on that canvas. The background. And they think it through. We want this color, we want that color. We want to put the borders like this, and we want this to contrast with the other colors of the subject or the object of the painting to maximize the visual quality of the painting or the portrait. So it's crucial when painting on a canvas that the first application and the background dries before you start painting the next part of the picture. It's crucial that you do that. Remember when you got that paint by number set or that water color set when you were a kid. And you said I'm going to paint the sky, the clouds, the birds, the trees, the house, and the sidewalk all at once. So you put the background on there, the sky you put all the blue paint on there. Then you'll try to paint the clouds before the sky dries, and all of a sudden your clouds start blending in with the sky and you just have one big mess. And you keep putting more and more paint on there and you think "why won't this work? I'm just trying to paint a cloud. And the colors run together and you end up with just one big bland nothingness. It all ran together. There's no distinction. There's no definition as to what you're trying to paint. You got it on there and you tried to put all the colors on there at once, but it's just not working right. Why? Because you are trying to bypass the process of waiting and allowing the paint to dry so you can put the other coat of paint on.

Now likewise. The spiritual analogy is this... God is doing something in your life. He is laying a background for what He wants to create you to be in the future. It is a process. But we look at God in our impatience, and we say "God, I want it all now. I don't want to wait God. I want everything you want me to be and everything you have for me, I want it now." See, just like the kid. "I want It now. I want all the candy. I want the whole bag of candy." Well you know if you give the kid the whole bag of candy, What's the kid going to do? He's going to eat the whole bag of candy, Get an upset stomach



and maybe throw up on the carpet. Then you got a big mess on your hands. See now you being the parent, you know that. But see the kid being the kid doesn't know that. So you being the parent, and a good parent. You're going to say ... "No, you can't have all of the candy right now. It wouldn't be good for you."

"But Why daddy, Why? Why can't I have it all now."

"Because it will upset your stomach. "

"No it won't, No it wont."

See, we're the same way with God. God "I want it all now God. Can't you see God I must have this in my life. Don't hold me back God. Let me have everything and let me be all that I'm supposed to be right now."

See God knows what you can handle and what you can't handle. Remember last week we talked about character development. God isn't going to place but that degree of anointing on your life that you have the character to handle.