

# Week 3

**Theme**: "How Can I See the Purpose in the Wait?"

Waiting seasons often feel dry, confusing, and frustrating—but hidden within them are profound opportunities for growth and spiritual awakening. Instead of simply enduring the wait, we're invited to *examine* it. Beneath the surface, God is cultivating things we may not have even noticed. The teaching reminds us: if we slow down and take a careful look, we may discover fruit right beneath our feet—blessings that have been growing all along while we were focused elsewhere.

God does not waste our waiting. The wait slows us down enough to notice what He's already doing, to steward the seeds He's planted, and to become more aware of His presence. Just as physical fruit takes time to grow, so does spiritual fruit—joy, trust, contentment, and faith. Often, we look for "the harvest" in certain outcomes, but God might be developing a different kind of fruit—one that's more necessary for our purpose than we realized.

This message calls us to trust God's timing and process, to pay attention to our current soil, and to consider that He may be growing something unexpected, but essential. It's not about waiting for life to start "one day when" the right people or circumstances arrive. The real purpose is being formed *now*, moment by moment. When we take a long and careful look at His ways, we find strength, redirection, and perspective that re-anchor us in God's enduring love.

## **Key Scriptures:**

- **Psalm 136:1** "His love endures forever."
- Psalm 119:59 (MSG) "When I took a long, careful look at your ways, I got my feet back on the trail you blazed."
- 1 Peter 5:7 "Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you."
- John 15:5 "If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit..."

#### **Discussion Questions:**

#### 1. The Hidden Harvest

- Have you ever realized God was doing something in your life only in hindsight? What changed when you looked back?
- What "hidden harvest" might be under your feet right now that you haven't noticed yet?

#### 2. The Purpose of Slowing Down

- What makes it hard for you to slow down and pay attention in a waiting season?
- In what ways could slowing down open your eyes to God's activity in your life?

#### 3. Fixing Our Focus

- What are you currently fixated on in your waiting? Is it feeding frustration or growing your faith?
- How do you keep your focus on God's promises when your circumstances seem stuck?

#### 4. Reframing the Wait

- Have you ever seen God bring beauty out of a season you once thought was barren?
- How might viewing the wait as a "table prepared" rather than a holding pattern change your perspective?

### **Prayer Focus:**

Spend time asking God to reveal any hidden harvest in your life. Invite Him to shift your focus from what's missing to what He's growing. Pray for clarity, gratitude, and the ability to see His goodness in the present moment.



# **Challenge of the Week:**

Practice "Palms Down, Palms Up" prayer each day this week. Surrender specific anxieties or frustrations to God (palms down), then receive His promises and peace (palms up). Reflect on how this daily posture shifts your perspective in the wait.