



*“Thank You For Holding”*

**Reasons to Thank God...  
...For the Wait**

**Psalm 27:14**

*“Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!”*

# Ever Felt Like Your Life Was Put On Hold?

**Your Expecting...**

- **Growth but ...Feel Stagnant**
- **Joy but ...Feel Pain**
- **Breakthrough but ...Feel Broke Down**

**You Pray and Expect but All There is...**

**...WAIT!**

**God Definitely ...**

**...Understands**

**...Has a Plan**

# Waiting...

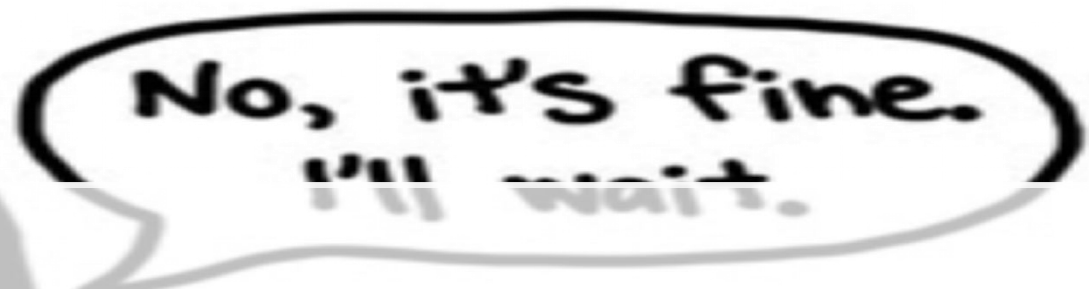
## **WHO Likes to Wait?**

- **Fallen Humans Do Not Like to Wait**
- **We Want Instant Gratification**
- **We Want Life's Knottiest Problems Solved in a Half Hour**
- **Why is it So Hard for Sons of Adam to Wait?**



WAITING

# Waiting...



**Waiting On the Lord Is..**

**...One of the Most Sanctifying (*prep for service*)**

**...Necessary Aspects of the Christian Life**

*“O Lord, your ways are higher than our ways, your thoughts higher than our thoughts.” -Isa 55:9*

**We Pray in Hope...**

**...Then We Wait on the Lord to Answer**

**The Puritans Developed the Doctrine of Waiting...**

**“God’s School of Waiting”**

*“Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!” - Psalm 27:14*

# Waiting...

## As Difficult As It Can Be...

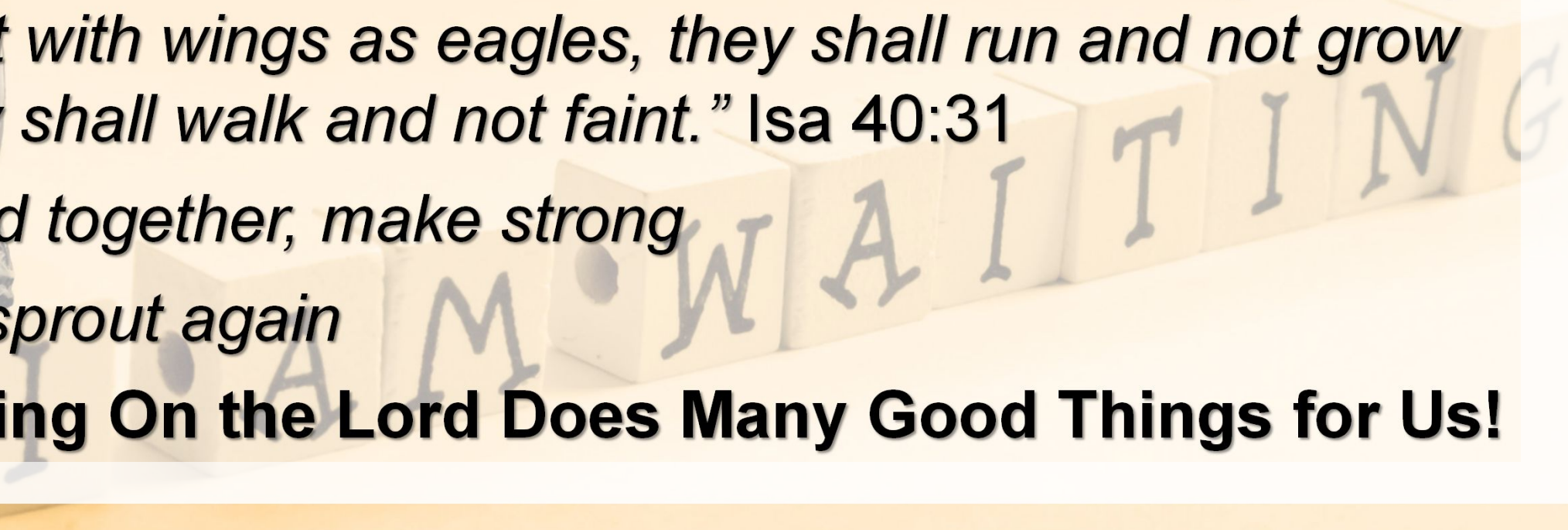
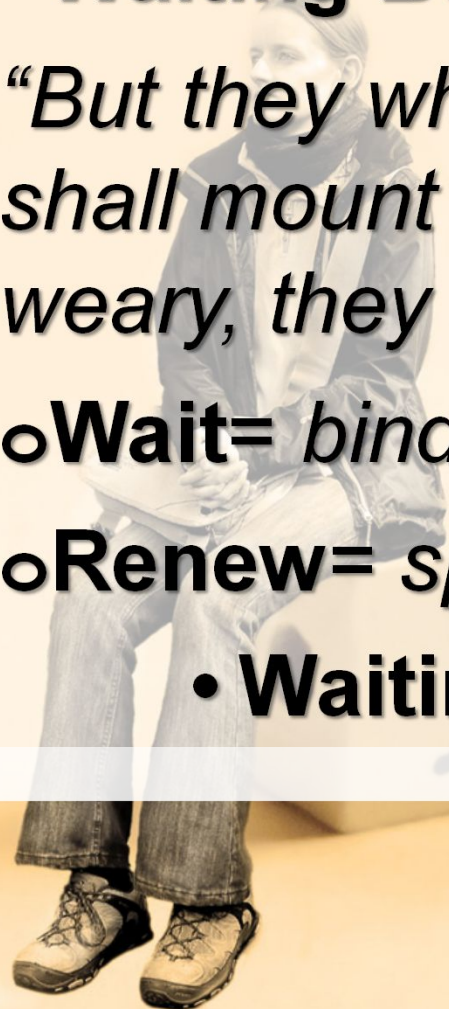
- **Waiting Builds Spiritual Muscles In A Unique Manner**

*“But they who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount with wings as eagles, they shall run and not grow weary, they shall walk and not faint.” Isa 40:31*

- **Wait** = *bind together, make strong*

- **Renew** = *sprout again*

- **Waiting On the Lord Does Many Good Things for Us!**



# Causes Us To Pray Without Ceasing

**We are Needy and He Owns the Cattle on a Thousand Hills**

- **He is Always Faithful and...**

**...the Outcome of Our Waiting Proves Him True**

**1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 (MSG)**

***<sup>16</sup> Be cheerful no matter what; <sup>17</sup> pray all the time; <sup>18</sup> thank God no matter what happens. This is the way God wants you who belong to Christ Jesus to live.***

**Divine...**

- **Connection –*He Desires It***
- **Communication –*He is Listening***
- **Consolation –*He will Respond***

# We Get a Greater Understanding

We Understand that We are Dependent Upon Our Creator  
Though Our Hearts Crave Omniscience / Omnipotence,

...We Possess Neither

...Waiting Helps Us to Focus On that Reality

**Hebrews 10:23 (AMP)**

<sup>23</sup> So let us seize *and* hold fast *and* retain without wavering the hope we cherish *and* confess *and* our acknowledgement of it, for He Who promised is reliable (sure) *and* faithful to His word.

- **Dependent** – “*seize and hold fast...*”
- **Dependable** – “*...is reliable and faithful to His Word*”

# Increases Our Faith

Hebrews Defines Faith as...

*“the conviction of things hoped for...*

*...the evidence of things not seen?” -Heb. 11:1*

**We Wait...**

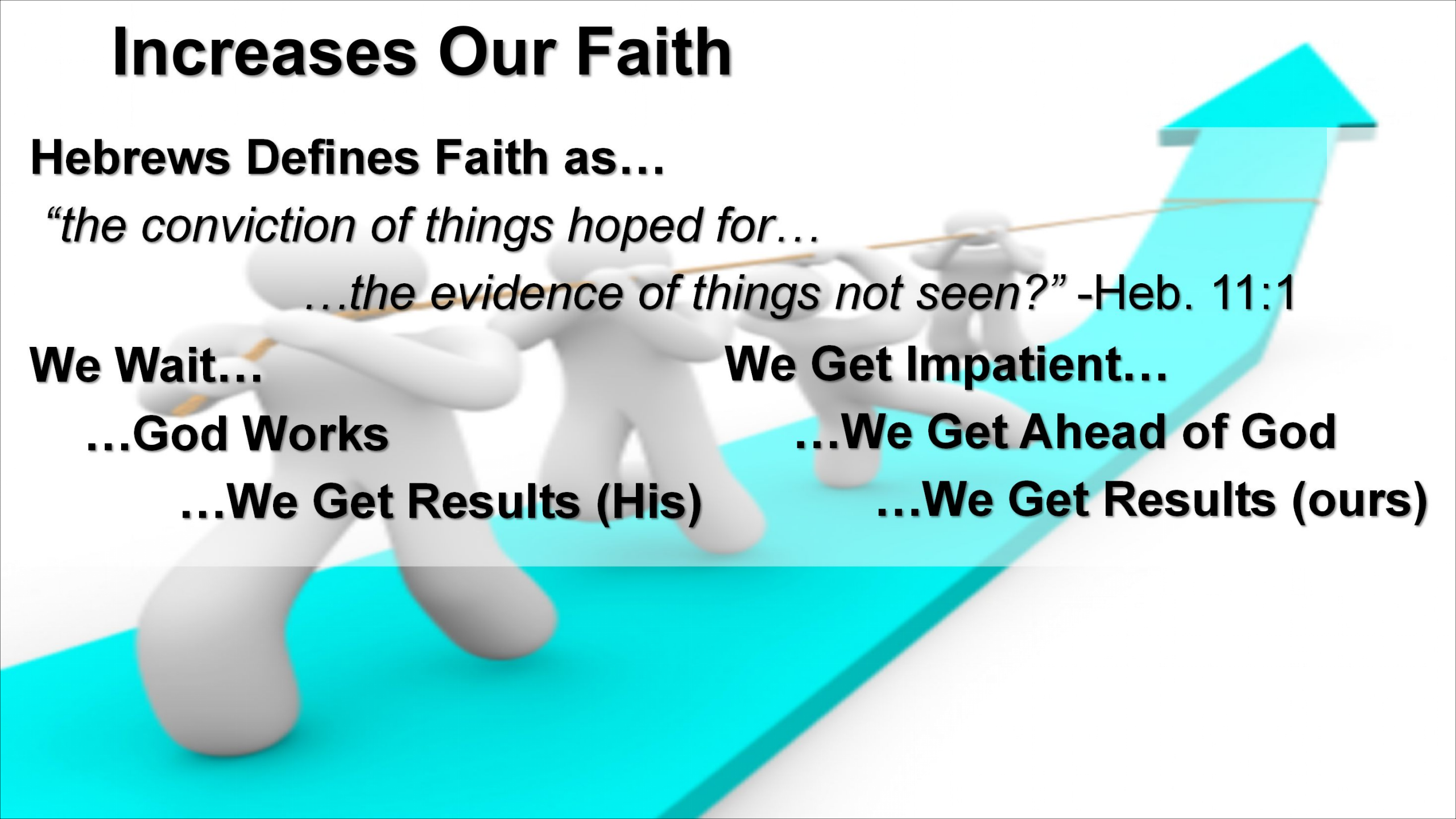
**...God Works**

**...We Get Results (His)**

**We Get Impatient...**

**...We Get Ahead of God**

**...We Get Results (ours)**





# Helps us Lean on God's Sovereignty

Through the storm,  
Waiting, We Experience God's Lordship In an Intimate Way

- **Psalm 97:9 (NLT)**

*<sup>9</sup> For you, O LORD, are supreme over all the earth; you are exalted far above all gods. -He Is Perfect (He IS God!)*

- **Colossians 1:17 (AMP)**

*<sup>17</sup> And He Himself existed before all things, and in Him all things consist (cohere, are held together) -He Is Power!*

- **Psalm 9:9** *The LORD also will be a stronghold for the oppressed,*

*A stronghold in times of trouble; -He Is Protection!*

LORD OF ALL!

# Gives Us Hope for Our Future

**Ro 8:24–25**, *“Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.”*

**Waiting Instills a Glorious By-product “Patience” ...**

**...a Lost Spiritual Virtue**

**Luke 21:19 (KJV)** *In your patience possess ye your souls.*

**• Luke 21:19 (AMP)** <sup>19</sup> **By your steadfastness *and* patient endurance you shall win the true life of your souls.**

**◦Patience = Not Just Waiting But How We Act While We Wait**

hold

on,

pain

ends.

# Reminds Us that We Live Between the Times

## When Jesus Returns

- The “Not Yet” Will Collapse Into the “Already”
- No More Waiting for Answers
- Jesus Will Set Everything Right

Until Then, We Pray / Wait / Are Sanctified by God’s Wise Process

Hebrews 11:13 (MSG)

*<sup>13</sup> Each one of these people of faith died not yet having in hand what was promised, but still believing. How did they do it? They saw it way off in the distance, waved their greeting, and accepted the fact that they were transients in this world.*

# Gives Us an Eternal Viewpoint

**When We Bring Urgent Petitions Before the Lord...**

- **We Wait With Expectancy**
- **We Move From Our Way To God's Way**

**Jonathan Edwards Prayed, "O Lord, stamp eternity on my eyeballs."**

- **Waiting Helps to Do That**
- **It Prioritizes the Eternal Over the Temporal**

**2 Corinthians 4:18 (KJV)**

***18 While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal.***

Watch God work in  
His ways

Ask God about His  
purposes

Invite God to work in  
your heart

Trust God to fulfill  
His plans

Waiting on God doesn't  
mean we're doing nothing.  
It's about allowing  
God to do His thing.