



## Waiting

This has been a time in my life of waiting on the Lord. Waiting for my wedding to come (only 3 months left!), waiting for a job (my internship is sadly ending here at Northview,) and waiting for that job to provide money for the wedding.

Sometimes when I am waiting for something it makes each day feel like forever and I really do start to wonder why God is doing what he is doing. There must be some sort of reason, but I just don't see it. It seems like he is just leaving me hanging, wondering and wondering when things will change. I have been engaged for almost a year now, so I'm used to that waiting feeling. I really am getting used to being in a perpetual state of "almost there".

But eventually something's gotta give right? Eventually the changes do come, and if I focus on how much I wish they were here, I will miss God's lesson in preparing me for them.

I have tried to be diligent, applying for jobs when they come up and being ready to follow God's leading wherever and whenever it may arise. Also, Alex and I have been having a lot of fun planning the wedding and preparing for that day, because it will come. The last thing I want is to become stagnant and then miss an opportunity that God presents to me because of inactivity.

But through struggles and ups and downs in the past year I have learned that without this waiting period, I would not be ready for my marriage, and without waiting on God

for a job I would not fully give Him the glory when He provides. The waiting period that He has put me through, and is still putting me through is so necessary for me to receive the gifts and challenges that await me at the end of it.

So is it possible that even waiting is an important call from God, not just something that all Christians have to endure once in a while? Is it possible that I am blessed to be waiting on Him to show me His provision?

*Yet the Lord longs to be gracious to you;*

*therefore He will rise up to show you compassion.*

*For the Lord is a God of justice.*

*Blessed are all who wait for Him!*

*Isaiah 30:18*

After studying various verses that talk about waiting on the Lord, I've noticed that the focus is more on waiting for the Lord himself than waiting on what He will provide. Waiting for the Lord refines and teaches me so that I can trust in Him to provide for all my needs.

*I wait for the Lord, my soul waits and in His word I hope:*

*My soul waits for the Lord*

*More than watchmen for the morning*

*More than watchmen for the morning*

*Psalms 130:5-6*

He hears me. My hope is in His word. I wait for His earthly provision, but most of all I wait to spend an eternity with Him. I wait for Him to complete His salvation of me and it is a blessing to do so. I am waiting for God to provide, and I am waiting to marry Alex, but these are both to chisel me and grow me as I wait to be God's long awaited bride. Just as waiting for Alex prepares me for marriage, so waiting on Him prepares me for eternity.

If you are waiting for a change in your life or eager for something in the future consider that maybe this time of waiting is something you can treasure, not just something you have to endure. Maybe what God has for you *right now* is just as much of a gift as what's coming at the end of it.

May you be blessed in your waiting,

Sterling Muth

Intern for Women's Ministries