

From the Pastor's Desk...

While We Wait

⁴ But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵ to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

Galatians 4:4-5

There is a lot of waiting in the season of Advent. An excited child waits for a package to arrive on the doorstep. A parent waits for the college student to come home for Christmas break. A worker waits for the holiday bonus. An elderly resident at the nursing home waits for her family's visit. We all wait. Every one of us has to bide our time, sit down and wait it out.

But what do we do while we wait? Some of us can find creative ways to pass the time, if we knit or crochet. If we read books, or enjoy striking up a conversation in a waiting room, we can make waiting interesting.

God too, established a period of waiting, that we might receive the Christ Child after we had spent time anticipating. When the "fullness of time" had come, our above verse says, then God sent forth Jesus, born in a manger and raised in humble fashion. The waiting prepared our hearts for the reception of Christ the Savior.



What we do while we wait, is also important. While we wait, we can be engaged in worship, in careful thought of our spiritual life, and deliberation of how we can observe his mercy. Waiting prepares the heart and helps us to not take anything for granted, but to appreciate all that God is doing in the background. We might live in a world where immediate results are the norm, but with God, we will catch more meaning if we slow everything down.

When we make decisions, we are to wait for God's guidance in prayer. When we sit down for a meal, we wait to say grace and ask God's blessing on it. When we have a question, we wait until we have time to consult God's Word. Waiting plays an important role in our lives as disciples.

When we reach our goal, we find that the waiting was well worth it. In fact, it was necessary to be in the right frame of mind for Christ. God is almost never in a hurry to do something, and if we will take our time with Him, He will strengthen and deepen our faith. By the time Christ arrives on the scene, it is truly a day of rejoicing!

Merry Christmas!

Pastor Chris Schroder