



## A Guide for Spiritual Formation

Text for the Week: Acts 1:1-5  
Message for the Week: "Hurry Up and Wait"  
Theme for the Week: Are we willing to wait on God's timing in our lives, church, home, work?

## Week 2

### Preparation:

Spend 1-2 minutes in silence with God to center and prepare yourself for your time with God today.

### Opening:

What is one low (a bad thing) and one high (a good thing) that happened to you this past week? Write them down and take turns sharing them with the others in your group.

Where have you seen the work of the Holy Spirit in your life this past week?

What is a dream of yours? How do you plan to fulfill it?

### Read:

Read Acts 1:1-5 out loud.

What words, phrases, or ideas grabbed your attention and heart in these verses?

Write them down below and/or share them those who are with you.

## Respond / Reflect:

What is something you are waiting for right now?  
Is there anything you are desperately waiting for currently?  
Is waiting hard or easy for you? What do you do while you're waiting?

What role did prayer play while the disciples waited? What role does prayer play during your waiting?

What is your reaction to the following Lewis Smedes' quote?

*"Waiting is our destiny. As creatures who cannot by themselves bring about what they hoped for, we wait in the darkness for a flame we cannot light. We wait in fear for a happy ending we cannot write. We wait for a 'not yet' that feels like a 'not ever.'"*

Pastor Doug talked about four responses while we are waiting:

**Yielding    Anticipating    Praying    Coming Together**

Which of these is the biggest challenge for you? Which is the easiest?

## "Try It!"

While you are waiting this week (at home, at work, while driving or doing errands, etc.), pay special attention to how you are feeling while you wait. What do you notice about your feelings (anxious, fear, irritation, peace, contentment, impatience, etc.)? How are these feelings impacting your waiting?

**Prayer:** Spend time in prayer regarding the things God revealed and that you discerned today.

Also, spend time in prayer for the other person(s) who are with you using the prayer Paul prayed in Colossians 1 as your guide. Pray for things such as...

- God to fill them with the knowledge of his will
- For them to have wisdom and understanding
- That they live a worthy life / a life that is pleasing to God in every way
- That they bear fruits of the Holy Spirit
- That they are strengthened with the power of God
- That they practice endurance and patience with those they interact with each day
- For the forgiveness of their sins
- For any specific needs or concerns that they have