



Way of the Eagle

by Rhoda Collins

TRUST

What does it mean to trust God when we don't know what is going on in our lives? Trusting God when we don't know the next step? Trusting God when we don't have the answers to our unpleasant circumstances? How do we develop patience while we are waiting for our breakthrough?

We all want good things that we were promised to happen in our lives, but too often we want it now... not later. When it doesn't happen that way, we become impatient, we worry, we have sleepless nights, we even become sick. The questing that ponders in our minds is, "When, God, when?"

If you're missing joy and peace, you're not trusting God. If your mind feels worn out all the time, you're not trusting God.

We can spend a large part of our life being impatient, frustrated and disappointed because there were things we don't know and we want them changed now. God is teaching us to leave things alone, trust Him and quit feeling that we need to know everything now. When we decide to trust the One who knows all things and we don't have the answers, we prove that we trust God when we refuse to worry.

God wants us to live by discernment—*revelation* knowledge, not *head* knowledge. It's difficult to exercise discernment if you're always trying to figure out everything. But when you're willing to say, "God, I can't figure this out, so I'm going to trust You to give me revelation that will set me free," then you can be comfortable in spite of not knowing. God is never late, but generally He isn't early either. Why? Because He uses times of waiting to stretch our faith in Him and to bring about change and growth in our lives.

Wait With Patience

God develops the fruit of patience in us when we go through various trials and unpleasant circumstances in our lives and He asks us to let go of that person who hurt us, let go revenge or let go of you being in charge and trying to change your difficult circumstances. **Galatians 5:22** says, "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law".

And also **James 1:4**, "But let endurance and steadfastness and patience have full play and do a thorough work, so that you may be [people] perfectly and fully developed [with no defects], lacking in nothing".

As we develop patience, the Bible says we finally feel completely satisfied, we no longer decide to live by the pleasure of the flesh but we let every change make us more mature, solid and well-grounded. When we are going through many experiences that requires us to trust God we see God's faithfulness over and over, and then we let go of trusting ourselves. If He did everything we asked for immediately, we would never grow and develop. Timing and trust work side by side.

THE BIBLE NEVER ONCE SAYS, "FIGURE IT OUT," BUT OVER AND OVER IT SAYS, "TRUST GOD." HE'S ALREADY GOT IT ALL FIGURED OUT.

Accept God's Timing

God gives us hopes and dreams for certain things to happen in our lives, but He doesn't always allow us to see the exact timing of His plan. There are times when we might give up if we knew how long it was going to take, but when we accept God's timing, we can learn to live in hope and enjoy our lives while God is working on our problems. We know that God's plan for our lives is good, and when we entrust ourselves to Him, we can experience total peace and happiness. God's training period simply requires us to do what He tells us to do when He tells us to do it...without questioning or trying to figure everything out.

Learn to Rely on God

Proverbs 16:9 says, “A man's mind plans his way, but the Lord directs his steps and makes them sure.” **Proverbs 20:24** says, “Man's steps are ordered by the Lord. How then can a man understand his way?” When God directs our paths, He sometimes leads us in ways that don't make sense to us so we're not always going to understand everything. If we try to reason out everything, we will experience struggle, confusion and misery—but there is a better way. **Proverbs 3:5-6** says, “Lean on, trust in, and be confident in the Lord with all your heart and mind and do not rely on your own insight or understanding. In all your ways know, recognize, and acknowledge Him, and He will direct and make straight and plain your paths”. Most of us have spent our lives trying to take care of ourselves, but when we accept Christ as our Savior, we must learn to trust our lives to His care. When we do, we can say with the psalmist ... “I trusted in, relied on, and was confident in You, O Lord; I said, You are my God. My times are in Your hands”... (**Psalm 31:14-15**).

1 Peter 5:5 tells us that ... “God sets Himself against the proud (the insolent, the overbearing, the disdainful, the presumptuous, the boastful)—[and He opposes, frustrates, and defeats them], but gives grace (favor, blessing) to the humble.” Anyone who thinks they're a self-made man or woman has a rude awakening coming because Jesus said, ... “apart from Me [cut off from vital union with Me] you can do nothing (**John 15:5**)”. When we humble ourselves by saying, “God, I don't know what to do, but I'm trusting You,” God gets in gear to help us. God won't allow us to succeed at anything unless we're leaning and relying on Him. But when we humble ourselves under the mighty hand of God, in due time, He will exalt us (see **1 Peter 5:6**). “Due time” is God's time, when God knows we're ready, not when we think we're ready.

From Seedtime to Harvest

Ecclesiastes 3:1 tells us, “To everything there is a season, and a time for every matter or purpose under heaven”. This lets us know that we all don't live in the same season at the same time. You should never be jealous of someone who is enjoying harvest while you're still in the planting season. Remember, they had to go through a season of planting just as you are. Seeing the results they are enjoying should be an encouragement to you. Understand and trust that God is doing the very best for you in your present season. Seedtime represents learning the will of God. Each time I choose God's will instead of my own; I'm planting a good seed that will eventually bring a harvest in my life. If you want to be victorious, you cannot afford to get pulled into the world's system, doing what you feel like doing. **James 1:21** tells us what we should do: ...”get rid of all uncleanness and the rampant outgrowth of wickedness, and in a humble (gentle, modest) spirit receive and welcome the Word which implanted and rooted [in your hearts] contains the power to save your souls”.

Your soul is your mind, your will and your emotions. When the Word gets rooted in there and begins to change your mind, it begins to heal your emotions and turn your will away from self-will and onto doing the will of God. Living out of one's own soul is equivalent to staying in the wilderness. When my flesh is finally crucified and I get out of my soul and into doing the will of God, that's when I enter the Promised Land. The Promised Land is knowing who you are in Christ, knowing how to fellowship with Him, enjoying His presence, and having peace, contentment and joy. Between seedtime and harvest comes a time of waiting. After a seed is planted, the heat, moisture and pressure of the ground finally cause the outer hull to crack open. Then roots shoot down, digging their way through the ground. It takes time for this to happen, and it takes place underground. Above the ground, you can't tell anything is happening. That's the way our lives are. After we plant seeds of obedience, we feel like nothing is happening, but all kinds of things are happening inside where we can't see. And like the seed that finally bursts through the ground with a beautiful green shoot, our seeds of obedience finally break forth into a beautiful manifestation of God in our lives.