

06

06142020



RIVERSIDE CHURCH



RIVERSIDE CHURCH // RC ONLINE

RIVERSIDE CHURCH // RC ONLINE

# BACK *TO THE* FUTURE



20  
20

MESSAGE NOTES & SMALL GROUP  
DISCUSSION/PERSONAL GUIDES

WEEK OF  
JULY 12, 2020



## “Discouraging Delays”

[Tom Lundeen, Senior Pastor]

### MESSAGE NOTES

Since God never wastes anything, He hasn't intended for us to go on this difficult and \_\_\_\_\_ journey so that the end result will be that we just go back to what we were, or just develop a *new normal*.

God wants to lead us to an extraordinary life that we could only begin to experience by having \_\_\_\_\_ through these painful circumstances and hard times.

None of us like to \_\_\_\_\_/be delayed.

- Noah (\_\_\_\_ years before the Flood).
- Abraham (\_\_\_\_ years for promised child).
- Isaac (\_\_\_\_ years for twin boys).
- Moses (\_\_\_\_ years in exile from Egypt in the desert).
- Joseph (\_\_\_\_ years to become Prime Minister of Egypt).
- David (\_\_\_\_ years to become King of Israel).

God is never \_\_\_\_\_ or in a hurry.

So what has God been wanting us to \_\_\_\_\_ about the waiting we've been experiencing?

### 1. Delays Display Our Real \_\_\_\_\_ (note 2 Kings 6:24-33)

Waiting brings out either the \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ in people.

- Noah (\_\_\_\_\_ of righteousness, 2 Peter 2:5).
- Abraham (\_\_\_\_\_ of faith, note Genesis 15:4-6; 16:1-2).
- Moses (note Exodus 3:10-11; Deuteronomy 34:10-12).
- Joseph (note Genesis 50:19-20).
- \_\_\_\_\_ (note Psalm 27:14).

What have the delays and waiting you've been experiencing these months \_\_\_\_\_ about what your genuine motives are?

**2. Delays Can Develop \_\_\_\_\_ (note James 1:2-4; 2 Peter 1:5-8)**  
\_\_\_\_\_ is a building block of spiritual maturity.

It helps us have the right \_\_\_\_\_ about what really matters.

Have the delays you've been experiencing the past 4 months been expanding or \_\_\_\_\_ patience in your life?

**3. Delays \_\_\_\_\_ Anticipation (note James 5:7)**

Are the delays you've been experiencing the past 4 months creating a \_\_\_\_\_ anticipation for the future?

**4. Delays \_\_\_\_\_ our Character and Heart**

Are the delays you're experiencing doing a renovation project in your life?

*Instead of back to the future:*

- Delays/waiting is never \_\_\_\_\_.
- We may not always understand why we have to wait at times in our lives or experience delays, but the \_\_\_\_\_ is this...
- God never asks us to wait without \_\_\_\_\_.

*Tell someone about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey!*

*Let us know, too, and fill out our digital connect card.*



# DISCUSSION GUIDE

**Icebreaker:** When you park in a parking lot, do you drive around to find the best, closest, etc. spot, do you take whatever you see first, or something else? What do you think your habit says about you?

1. What were some of the things that stuck out in the examples of delay and waiting that Pastor Tom shared with us?
2. What was your initial response to this statement from Pastor Tom: "God is never rushed or in a hurry."
3. Waiting brings out our real motives as shown in the examples of Noah, Abraham, Moses, Joseph & David. Which of these examples jumped out at you and why? Read the passages listed in your message notes if your memory is fuzzy on their stories.
4. As you consider how delays can develop patience, read [2 Peter 1:5-8](#). What are some of the benefits we reap from developing patience in our lives?
5. Delays build anticipation, as shown in [James 5:7-8](#). After you read this, discuss how this has been happening in your life.
6. Pastor Tom ended with talking about how "Delays Renovate our Character and Heart." What areas has God been bringing to your mind that need renovation and how have you responded to Holy Spirit's prompting?

## PERSONAL GUIDE

DAY 1: [2 Peter 1](#)

DAY 2: [2 Peter 2](#)

DAY 3: [2 Peter 3](#)

DAY 4: [1 John 1](#)

DAY 5: [1 John 2](#)







## **“Discouraging Delays”**

[Tom Lundeen, Senior Pastor]

### **MESSAGE NOTES**

Since God never wastes anything, He hasn't intended for us to go on this difficult and challenging journey so that the end result will be that we just go back to what we were, or just develop a *new normal*.

God wants to lead us to an extraordinary life that we could only begin to experience by having walked through these painful circumstances and hard times.

None of us like to wait/be delayed.

- Noah (100 years before the Flood).
- Abraham (25 years for promised child).
- Isaac (20 years for twin boys).
- Moses (40 years in exile from Egypt in the desert).
- Joseph (13 years to become Prime Minister of Egypt).
- David (15 years to become King of Israel).

God is never rushed or in a hurry.

So what has God been wanting us to learn about the waiting we've been experiencing?

### **1. Delays Display Our Real Motives (note 2 Kings 6:24-33)**

Waiting brings out either the best or worst in people.

- Noah (preacher of righteousness, 2 Peter 2:5).
- Abraham (rollercoaster of faith, note Genesis 15:4-6; 16:1-2).
- Moses (note Exodus 3:10-11; Deuteronomy 34:10-12).
- Joseph (note Genesis 50:19-20).
- David (note Psalm 27:14).

What have the delays and waiting you've been experiencing these months revealed about what your genuine motives are?

## **2. Delays Can Develop Patience (note James 1:2-4; 2 Peter 1:5-8)**

Patience is a building block of spiritual maturity.

It helps us have the right perspective about what really matters.

Have the delays you've been experiencing the past 4 months been expanding or contracting patience in your life?

## **3. Delays Create Anticipation (note James 5:7)**

Are the delays you've been experiencing the past 4 months creating a positive anticipation for the future?

## **4. Delays Renovate our Character and Heart**

Are the delays you're experiencing doing a renovation project in your life?

*Instead of back to the future:*

- Delays/waiting is never fun.
- We may not always understand why we have to wait at times in our lives or experience delays, but the great news is this...
- God never asks us to wait without Him.

*Tell someone about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey!*

*Let us know, too, and fill out our digital connect card.*