



TABLE TALK

FAMILY DISCUSSION GUIDE for May 29-June 4, 2022

WEEKLY READINGS: Acts 1; I Corinthians 15:3-8; Psalm 123:1-2; Isaiah 40:28-31

ACTS IN 30 Week 1: *Jesus' Ascension and the Instruction to "Wait"*

NOTE: This TABLE TALK guide is for a special, "Church in Your Home" Sunday on May 29. Be sure to visit our web-site, Facebook and Instagram pages to download worship, teaching, and communion videos that will equip you to have a great Church In Your Home experience.

FOCUS: READ Acts 1:3-10 The Resurrected King Ascends Into Heaven and Gives Instructions to His Disciples

"And while staying with them, Jesus ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem but to wait"....(Acts 1:3a)

BIG IDEA 1 – After His resurrection, Jesus appeared to more than 500 eye-witnesses teaching them and proving to everyone He was the Messiah (see I Cor. 15:3-8). After this 40-day period, He tells His disciples (which included 120 men and women) to **WAIT** for the Promise to be given to them in Jerusalem. Exactly 10 days later, the Holy Spirit was poured out on the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2). Although the disciples did not exactly know what the Promise of the Holy Spirit would mean for their lives, they obeyed the Lord's instructions and faithfully WAITED on Him in prayer and expectation for those 10 days.

Q1- Waiting can be hard at times! When is the last time you really had to WAIT on something to come to pass that you really wanted? What do you think are some possible reasons why Jesus instructed them go and wait for 10 days instead of just giving them the Promise of the Holy Spirit before He ascended?

FOCUS: Psalm 123:1-2 The Word, "Wait," is a Verb

"As the eyes of the maidservant to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes look to You, O Lord our God, until You have mercy on us." (Psalm 123:2b)

BIG IDEA 2 – Waiting is an active word – it is not passive. Think of an excellent "waiter" or a "waitress" at a fancy restaurant who is always looking to their customers and eagerly "waiting" on their needs. We believe waiting on the Lord is similar - in that we must make ourselves available to Him so that we can more easily obey Him in our everyday lives. One important principle to remember in waiting well is that **our eyes need to stay focused on Jesus...**not just on our own needs and wants.

Q2- Why do you think it is important to keep our eyes on Jesus while we are waiting on Him to answer prayer? Do you think there is a difference in waiting on the Lord vs. waiting for a need to be met? If so, what are some of those differences?

FOCUS: Isaiah 40:28-31 What (or Who) Are You "Waiting On?"

"Those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength..." (Isaiah 40:31a)

BIG IDEA 3 – Waiting on the "wrong thing" or a "perfect situation" can be exhausting. Here, the prophet Isaiah encourages God's people to wait – not on things – but on the Lord Himself. When we wait well on God, we can get renewed in our soul and experience a peace and strength that surpasses our understanding.

Q3- What are some of the benefits Isaiah lists in verse 31 for those who wait well on the Lord? (write in the space below) Are you experiencing a time where you need to be refreshed in your faith and experience a renewal of hope for a situation in your life? If so, what are some ways that you can begin waiting well on the Lord? ALSO - who are 2-3 people who you can ask to pray for you and stand with you as you are waiting on the Lord for His promises to come to pass?
