



Street Smart

Part 6 - The Gap

Discussion Guide

Have you ever found just the perfect thing: maybe the outfit to wear to the party or the tile to finish your bathroom remodel? You're all ready to purchase only to find out it is on backorder. What do you do? Wait for that exact item or drop it and move on? Do you settle for something less or commit to the plan and patiently check back? It's no different with the plans and promises God gives us. Learn how to thrive, even in the gap between asking and receiving.

Jump Start

1. Describe a time when you expected something better/different than what was actually happening, a gap between your set expectations and your reality. Maybe you expected to arrive home to a clean house and dinner cooked, but your reality was walking into a mess and no food. How did this affect your attitude, behavior and actions?
2. *REMEMBER WHEN JESUS TURNED TO YOU: Read [Romans 3:23](#)* In this story, Jesus turns away from Jairus and tends to the woman. Share a time when Jesus has turned to you.
3. *STAY IN THE DELAY: Read [Mark 5:35-36](#)* Here we see Jairus receive devastating news while he was waiting on Jesus. The messenger tells him to leave Jesus alone, to not bother, yet Jairus waited. What happened while he waited? Have you experienced in the past or are you currently in the delay? What do you need to trust God with right now? Do you have faith that God is working it out?
4. *EVALUATE YOUR MEMBERS & YOUR MESSENGERS: Read [Mark 5:38-42](#)* Why does Jesus put everyone outside? What attitudes or people in your life hinder what God is trying to do? What people would Jesus send away before doing a miracle for you?
5. *WHILE YOU'VE BEEN WAITING GOD HAS BEEN WORKING: Read [Galatians 6:9](#)*

Has there been a time that you've just been tired of doing what's right? You serve, tithe, clock your daily quiet time, attend church weekly, pray ceaselessly and you just don't see God moving.

What does Galatians encourage us to do and what is God's promise?

IF GOD STARTED IT, GOD WILL FINISH IT: Read [Philippians 1:6](#) What has God started but not completed? How can you tell He started it?

Deeper

6. **Read [James 1:2-27](#)** When we are waiting on God, staying in the delay, it requires perseverance.
 - a. What do these verses encourage us with?
 - b. What do we have to avoid while facing trails?
 - c. What should we do to practice our faith?

7. **Read and Memorize [Psalms 40:1-3](#) : [Romans 12:2](#)** - Wisdom comes through God's Word. By spending time in His Word and memorizing we prepare ourselves for the challenges ahead.

Go to your app store and download Scripture Typer - load these verses and commit them to memory.