

Devotional from Pastor Ho
April 30, 2020

Psalm 130:5, *“I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word I hope.”*

Last week we meditated on the need to wait for the Lord. This week we could probably go a little deeper on this topic. I remember one of my high school buddies liked to say, “Waiting is the most boring job in the whole world!” We dislike waiting. In marketing, they taught us to manage customer satisfaction by shortening wait time. When there are distractions during the wait, we are told, the wait time feels shorter. Hence the screens along the line for the Disney rides.

Distractions, however, doesn’t sound like the right strategy as we wait for the Lord. Instead, we want to grow more focused and intent on the Lord during the wait; we want to be more eager and curious to learn what his words tell us about him and our wait. It is him we are waiting for. Negatively, we are called “wicked and slothful servants” (Matt 25:14-30), if we idle away our wait time. Positively, we are called to make the best use of the time (Eph 5:16) while waiting.

But what should happen during the wait? If you are asked to describe your ‘waiting for the Lord,’ would the following words make it on your list? The main categories are faith, hope, and love (1 Cor 13:13). Then the subcategories could be trusting, firm, expectant, single-minded, faithful, persevere, persistent, rewarding, assuring, unwavering, etc. That “love” is leading all these suggests the ultimate purpose of the wait: the thirst and desire to see the manifestation of God’s glory. This is true as we wait for COVID-19 to be over. We long to see the greater manifestation of God’s glory. After all, more than 214,000 people have died of the virus. It cannot be a mere incidence without significance. To some extent, this pandemic is also a miniature of the much greater glory and calamity on the last day, of which we also wait. We wait, not idly or aimlessly, but with single-minded hope and trust in his promise.

Prayer: Lord, help us to understand the depth of our wait for you, whether for the pandemic to go away or for you to come. Amen.

何牧師的靈修

2020年4月30日

詩篇 130 章 5 節：“我等候耶和華，我的心等候，我也仰望祂的話。”

上週我們思考了等候主的必要性，這週我們可以在這個話題上更深入一些。記得我一位高中好友喜歡說，“等待是最無聊的事！”我們不喜歡等。市場營銷學教我們用縮短等待時間來促進客戶的滿意度。人們都說，分散注意力會使人覺得等的時間比較短，因此在迪斯尼排隊時兩邊都有屏幕。

然而，分散注意力用在等候主的事上就不是正確的策略了。相反，在等候時我們要更加專注於主，更迫切地通過祂的話語認識祂。我們等候的是祂。從負面說，如果我們漫不經心地浪費等候的時間，我們就是那“又惡又懶的僕人”

（馬太福音 25:14-30）。從正面說，我們的呼召是在等候的時候愛惜光陰（以弗所書 5:16）。

但是等候的時候該發生什麼呢？如果有人請你描述“等候主”，你是否會用以下詞彙？總體是信、望、愛（哥林多前書 13:13）。細分可能是信靠、堅定、期待、專心、忠信、忍耐、執著、獎賞、確據、堅定不移等等。“愛”主導這一切表明等候的終極目的：渴望看到神榮耀的彰顯。在我們等候新冠疫情結束是如此，我們渴望看到神榮耀的更大彰顯。畢竟，已有 214,000 多人死於該病毒，這不可能是無足輕重的偶然事件。從某種程度上，這次疫病大流行也是我們所等候的末日時更大榮耀和災難的縮影。我們等候，不是懶懶散散、漫無目的地等候，而是對祂的應許懷著專一的盼望和信靠。

禱告：主啊，幫助我們明白等候祢的深意，無論是等候疫病大流行過去還是等候祢再來。阿門。

何牧师的灵修

2020年4月30日

诗篇 130 章 5 节：“我等候耶和華，我的心等候，我也仰望祂的話。”

上周我们思考了等候主的必要性，这周我们可以在这个话题上更深入一些。记得我一位高中好友喜欢说，“等待是世界上最无聊的事！”我们不喜欢等。市场营销学教我们用缩短等待时间来促进客户的满意度。人们都说，分散注意力会使人觉得等的时间比较短，因此在迪斯尼排队时两边都有屏幕。

然而，分散注意力用在等候主的事上就不是正确的策略了。相反，在等候时我们要更加专注于主，更迫切地通过祂的话语认识祂。我们等候的是祂。从负面说，如果我们漫不经心地浪费等候的时间，我们就是那“又恶又懒的仆人”（马太福音 25:14-30）。从正面说，我们的呼召是在等候的时候爱惜光阴（以弗所书 5:16）。

但是等候的时候该发生什么呢？如果有人请你描述“等候主”，你是否会用以下词汇？总体是信、望、爱（哥林多前书 13:13）。细分可能是信靠、坚定、期待、专心、忠信、忍耐、执着、奖赏、确据、坚定不移等等。“爱”主导这一切表明等候的终极目的：渴望看到神荣耀的彰显。在我们等候新冠疫情结束是如此，我们渴望看到神荣耀的更大彰显。毕竟，已有 214,000 多人死于该病毒，这不可能是无足轻重的偶然事件。从某种程度上，这次疫病大流行也是我们所等候的末日时更大荣耀和灾难的缩影。我们等候，不是懒懒散散、漫无目的地等候，而是对祂的应许怀着专一的盼望和信靠。

祷告：主啊，帮助我们明白等候祢的深意，无论是等候疫病大流行过去还是等候祢再来。阿门。