

## GROWTH

Leaving a Godly Legacy Sermon #3  
Rev. Ralph Van Oostveen

In lieu of actual sermon notes this morning allow me to quote Dr. Charles Stanley as he reflects on the spiritual discipline of "Waiting"  
In his book "Handbook for Christian Living" (Thomas Nelson Publishers ©1996)  
Stanley makes the following six observations about this discipline.

**When we wait:**

### 1. We Discover Gods Will And Purpose.

**Lam 3:25**

*The Lord is good to those who wait for Him, to the soul who seeks Him.*

### 2. We Discover Supernatural Physical Energy And Strength.

**Isa 40:31**

*But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint. NKJV*

### 3. We Win Battles.

**Psalms 147:11**

*The LORD Favours those who fear Him, those who wait for His lovingkindness." NASB*

### 4. We Receive Answers To Our Prayers.

**Psalms 40:1**

*I waited patiently for the Lord; And He inclined to me, And heard my cry. NKJV*

### 5. We See Fulfillment Of Our Faith.

**Isa 49:23b**

*For they shall not be ashamed who wait for Me." NKJV*

### 6. We See God Working In Our Behalf.

**Isa 64:4**

*For since the beginning of the world Men have not heard nor perceived by the ear, Nor has the eye seen any God besides You, Who acts for the one who waits for Him. NKJV*

When we plant a garden, we put seed under the soil. Then we water, then we wait. After sun and rain pelt the earth, the seed begins to grow, and we finally see evidence of what we planted. Suppose we had gotten impatient and dug up our seeds because nothing was happening? We would have ruined the garden. Some fruit takes a long time to mature. The One who wants to bring it forth in our lives knows exactly how long we need to wait.

Waiting is not wasted time. It brings forth the most luscious fruit of all.

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