

# Acts in Motion

## Part One: “The Waiting Room”

Reflection and study notes

When God says “wait”

**Wait** for the LORD; be strong and take heart and **wait** for the LORD.

Ps 27:14

Be still before the LORD and **wait** patiently for him; do not fret when men succeed in their ways, when they carry out their wicked schemes.

Ps 37:7

I **wait** for the LORD, my soul **waits**, and in his word I put my hope. My soul **waits** for the Lord more than watchmen **wait** for the morning, more than watchmen **wait** for the morning.

Ps 130:5&6

I will **wait** for the LORD, who is hiding his face from the house of Jacob. I will put my trust in him.

Isa 8:17

Yet the LORD longs to be gracious to you; he rises to show you compassion. For the LORD is a God of justice. Blessed are all who **wait** for him!

Isa 30:18

But they that **wait** upon the LORD shall renew [their] strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; [and] they shall walk, and not faint.

Isa 40:31

### Introduction:

What do you do while in the “waiting room”?

Flip through the magazines mindlessly reading and looking at the pictures? Become agitated about this “waste of time”? Start worrying about everything imaginable? Engage in interesting conversation with those who wait with you? Or use it as a time to catch up with yourself and plan the rest of your week?

Discussion: What is your “waiting room” strategy? What if God calls you into His “Waiting Room”? Is that a place of frustration, anger, worry or expectation?

“How long, oh God, must I wait?”

*And while staying with them he charged them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, you heard from me. Acts 1:4*

At this moment in the life of the disciples they were feeling completely powerless. They had just experienced the devastation of the crucifixion, the amazement of the resurrection, shared a number of meals with the risen one and now he was heading off to heaven.

Alone again, they are left with one instruction:

“wait”.

But what do you do when you are waiting and what are you waiting for?

### Waiting time need not be wasted time.

*“Men of Galilee,” they said, “why do you stand here looking into the sky? (Acts 1:11)*

### Waiting for power

*But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” (Acts 1:8)*

### Reflection:

What are you waiting on God for?

How are you waiting?

What if God takes too long?

NOTES	Acts in Motion Part One: "The Waiting Room"
Describe a time when the "waiting" has been worth it?	<b>The power that comes through waiting</b> (what to do while you wait)
Who are you with while you wait?	<b>Repair your relationships</b> <sup>14</sup> <i>They all joined together</i>
What are you praying about? Describe your "waiting prayer".	Just imagine the post-mortem on relationships. Denial, desertion and betrayal. The disciples could have very easily been pointing fingers at one another. Instead they "joined together".  <b>Renew your prayer</b> <sup>14</sup> <i>They all joined together constantly in prayer</i>
What are you reading?	There is nothing like waiting to improve one's prayer life. Stated even stronger, waiting teaches us to pray! Waiting is the gap between what I have and don't have. Prayer bridges that gap. The bigger the gap the greater the prayer.  <b>Review your beliefs</b> <sup>15</sup> <i>In those days Peter stood up among the believers (a group numbering about a hundred and twenty) <sup>16</sup>and said, "Brothers, the Scripture had to be fulfilled...</i>
What is the shape of your team? Do you experience the power of a team?	In days gone by Peter talked off the top of his head; now he stands up to speak of what the scriptures say. To make sense of all that had happened in his life Peter needed to review what he believed and to do that he went back to the scriptures.  Waiting time is a time to go back to the Bible to make sense of all that is happening in your life.  <b>Rebuild your team</b> <sup>21</sup> <i>"May another take his place of leadership. Therefore it is necessary to choose one of the men who have been with us the whole time the Lord Jesus went in and out among us..."</i>
	One man down makes a weak team. The disciples used this waiting time to rebuild their team. Power comes to a team that is ready.