

THE WAITING ROOM

The Invitation

In life, there are numerous waiting room experiences we must endure; as we've learned throughout this series, God meets us there and uses them to change us for the better. The good news of the gospel is that God meets us in our own waiting rooms and invites us out into the waiting rooms of others. Jesus' invitation isn't to simply believe, but to follow him into the broken places of the world and partner with him in putting the pieces back together.

Day 1 Read Luke 19:28-44

Why did Jesus come into Jerusalem the way that he did? What are behind his tears in verse 41? Many of these same people who are celebrating his arrival will be the same ones calling for his crucifixion. What do you think caused them to change their minds about Jesus? What is there for us to learn from this text?

Day 2 Read John 12:20-36

Put verses 24-25 into your own words. What does this mean for the way of life Jesus calls us into? Does this mean that Jesus desires for us to be miserable? Explain.

Day 3 Read Hebrews 12:1-13

How could something like the cross involve joy for Jesus? The word "discipline" here isn't referring to correction; it can also mean to make complete. How does that change the way you read the text? What does this have to teach us about the way of life Jesus invites us into?

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Day 4 Read Luke 22:39-46

How does Jesus' faithfulness challenge you and encourage you? Put verse 42 into your own words. Would you be willing to pray such a bold and selfless prayer? Explain.

Day 5 Read 1 Corinthians 1:18-31

How would you summarize this passage into one sentence? How is Jesus and, specifically, the cross the wisdom and the power of God? How does this redefine our understanding of power? What does it mean to "boast in the Lord?" What does that look like for you?

Day 6 Read Luke 22:24-38

How do you think Jesus felt when he heard the disciples arguing about which one of them was the greatest? What did this reveal about their understanding of what it meant for Jesus to be the Messiah? In what ways do you relate to the disciples?

Day 7 Read Matthew 25:31-46

According to this parable, how do we love and serve God? What does this say about the way of life Jesus invites us into? What would it look like for you to take a step into someone else's waiting room?

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