



THE LOVE LETTER

Abba's Arms International, Inc.
(Kings Kids Unlimited, Inc)

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We're Back from Kenya!



We want to thank everyone who contributed to sending us and those who faithfully prayed for us during our stay in Kenya. All of the expenses for the trip were covered and we felt the covering of your prayers for safety, health, and anointing during the many teaching and ministry times we had. We also appreciate the prayers and concerns for Rick as he walked through some problems with his prostate during the trip. We had good flights with our luggage arriving without damage or loss of anything. We had favor going through customs and adjusted easily to the time changes going over and coming back. We connected easily with our contact and had safe travels in Kenya. It was the best accommodations and food that we have ever had overseas.

The Students were very receptive to what we taught and what we were able to share about Father's Love. By the end, we heard them all talking about and praying to Father instead of just God or Lord! They were really impacted by our personal testimonies and our sharing on the orphan heart and sonship. We have already received two powerful testimonies of what Father did for them. We flowed easily with our interpreters and were able to sow a lot into their lives about a loving Heavenly Father. Both interpreters are really hungry to learn more about His love and grace. We did one teacher's seminar to 27 Sunday school teachers, stirring their imagination and creativity to make learning fun and exciting in their classes. In the afternoon we did a special program for 90+ kids in the neighborhood around the church. There were 25 kids who came forward for salvation.

One Sunday morning Rick was invited to share with 200+ teenage girls at a private high school across the road from where we stayed. Rick shared his testimony and how we need to forgive those who may have hurt us growing up. There was a real hush that fell over the auditorium as he led them in a prayer of forgiveness. Many of the girls were noticeably touched and five raised their hand for salvation.

The following Saturday we did an outreach to the street kids in Nakuru that was powerful. They live a rough life and many were huffing glue to ease the pain. Most of the kids came forward for salvation and hugs at the end of the program. There were many adults who were drawn to watch and listen too. THANKS FOR YOUR PART IN THIS SPECIAL TRIP!!

Learning to Wait While Believing Father is at Work

We live in a world that does not like to wait on almost anything. We are accustomed to instant gratification with our modern technology of microwaves, computers, and other devices that make our lives easier. Thus we often struggle with waiting in line at stores, airport terminals, rush hour traffic and so much more! Our society is used to moving at a fast pace so the idea of waiting seems strange to the way most of us walk through our days. Recently Father led me (Sue) to reread Andrew Murray's book, *"Waiting on God,"* which has stirred my heart and thinking to see my need to grow in this area of my walk with God. Some of you may have learned how to wait patiently for Father to work in your circumstances better than I have, so please feel free to send me an email and share what He has shown you. But I trust what follows will help each of you be encouraged to continue to grow in your ability to **wait expectantly on Him, knowing He only has good for you!**

What do you do when you have prayed about some situation and nothing is changing? What do you do when Father seems to be silent and has you waiting? Can you wait patiently? Often when we grow tired of

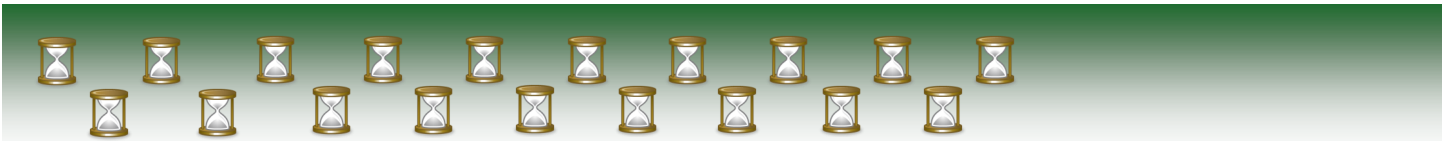
waiting, we desire to take control and just "do the best we can." To wait is often harder than to work! However I ran across a quote by John Piper who said, *"To wait on God means to pause and soberly consider our own inadequacy and the Lord's all sufficiency and to seek counsel and help from the Lord and to hope in Him. The folly of not waiting for God is that we forfeit the blessing of having God work for us. The evil of not waiting on God is that we oppose God's will to exalt Himself in mercy."* I have come to realize that even though my flesh may not like waiting, Father knows best and letting Him lead brings good things into my life.

Waiting is submission to Father's Better Idea.

Periods of waiting for His answers to our prayers does try our faith and tests our submission to Him as a trustworthy authority. Allowing all of our lives to be brought under His umbrella of direction can be challenging, but only He sees the big picture of our lives. I experienced my need to submit and trust Him during the two years that my

elderly mother lived in our home. I knew I was to care for her, but suddenly the vision of ministry and my freedom to come and go as I pleased was gone. At times I felt like I was in a prison with no date to get out. Yet today I can look back and see the deep work Father did in my heart during that time. As I finally became content with my circumstances rather than fighting them, I got to know, really know, my God in ways I never had. Times of waiting can be an opportunity to get to know more of the character of our God which leads to a greater ability to trust. I experienced the reality of **Hosea 2:14**, *"I will allure her, will bring her into the wilderness and speak comfort to her."* The things of the world were removed and I found Him to be my sufficiency!

Without waiting we can end up exhausted and in failure if we run ahead of Father. It can be quite painful when we do things our way. There are many examples in the Bible of people who took things into their own hands and the results were not positive. While God had promised Abraham and Sarah an heir from their bodies, they grew tired of waiting and they tried to help God which produced Ishmael. (**Gen. 15-16**)



We see Israel looking back to Egypt rather than trusting the God who had delivered them from the bondage of Pharaoh. (**Isa. 30:1-3**) Then there are the stories of King Saul who decided to do things his way or to follow the people rather than following the Lord's words spoken by Samuel. (**1 Sam 13:8-14 & 1 Sam 15:17-21**) In the New Testament Peter trusted in himself. He was the one that spoke too quickly and boasted that he would even die with Jesus, yet he ended up denying Jesus three times. (**Matt. 26:35, 69-75**) Father God's thoughts and ways are much higher than ours. Quite often a time of waiting is a time of preparation for us as well. If Father answered our requests right away, we may not be prepared to handle His solution. An important key to waiting is learning to look to Him rather than ourselves or natural solutions. Waiting on Father is our posture and the proper attitude of our heart as we yield to Him, His timing, and His ways.

Waiting and Trusting Him in Simple Faith

Keeping our hearts open and eager to hear from Father God is a key to waiting. David knew this secret and the Bible records he was *"a man after God's own heart."* (**Acts 13:22**) He went in, sat before the Lord, and focused on God's greatness in comparison to himself. (**2 Sam. 7:18-21**) After David had been anointed by Samuel to be king, he waited patiently for Father God's timing rather than making it happen himself. Anytime David didn't follow God's directions, he was quick to repent and turn his heart back to God. David put his eyes on the Lord as he said, *"Lead me in Your truth and teach me. For you are the God of my salvation; on You I wait all the day."* (**Ps. 25:5**) He walked with his God keeping a tender heart and trusting Him to work and bring His will to pass in David's life. Father is calling us to do the same thing.

All of creation is ruled by one unalterable law of *waiting upon God*! Just as it was God's work to create all the animals, the birds, even man, it is His work to maintain it all. The rest of creation lives in a continuous and universal dependence on Him. Just as Father God's nature has always been to be our unceasing supplier, man's place and nature is to wait upon God and receive from Him what He delights to give! Our place of faith is found in waiting on God in unceasing

and entire dependence upon Him! The more we see ourselves as His children and He is our loving, caring Father, the more we can rest that He will never disappoint us. Thus we can find rest, joy and strength as we wait on Him to supply our every need.

We see examples in the Bible of how people stood in faith and trusted that Father God was working in their situations which brought peace and rest as they waited. Consider Daniel's night in the lion's den; Peter able to sleep while chained to two guards in prison; and even Paul and Silas in stocks in prison after being beaten. None of them lost heart but believed to see the Lord's goodness, thus they waited on the Lord and were of good courage and He strengthened their hearts. (**Ps. 27:13-14**) They did not give up their hope when it looked like nothing was happening. They kept believing and expecting Father God's solution. We too need to respond to our challenges with faith, believing that our answer is just around the corner. We may wait and wait, but suddenly things change! God moves in "suddenlies" in response to our looking to Him!



Waiting - A Time to be Bound Together with Father

Many years ago the Lord led me to look up the Hebrew word for wait. **Wait** is *qavah* in Hebrew and means to bind together (by twisting); collect, to expect, gather(together), to look, patiently, or tarry. He began to speak to me and reveal that **waiting is a time of Him twisting and knitting our hearts together**. Recently I found another Hebrew word for wait, *damam*, which means to be dumb, stop, cease, hold peace, quiet self, rest, and be silent. From this word, Father has been speaking to me about the **importance of my being still** so that He can work. Father wants us to wait on Him, not allowing our flesh, mind, or emotions to usurp His place and try to figure out what needs to happen in a situation ourselves. We are told to *"wait silently for God alone"* **Ps. 62:5** and *"The Lord is good that a man should both hope and wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord"* **Lam. 3:26**. Father is waiting for us to be at rest in Him so that He can pour out His love on you and reveal His kingdom ways to

you. Bob Mumford has said, *"When we act, God waits. When we wait, God acts."*

Zechariah 2:13 in the Message Bible agrees saying, *"Quiet, everyone! Shh! Silence before God. Something's afoot in his holy house. He's on the move!"* We have a Father that has unlimited ability. He is just waiting for us to let Him work in our lives. What area of your life have you not let Him work? Get quiet and let Him work for you!

Our Father desires that we rest in the finished work that Jesus Christ accomplished on the cross. The Message Bible in **Isaiah 30:15** states it clearly, *"Your salvation requires you to turn back to Me and stop your silly efforts to save yourselves. Your strength will come from settling down in complete dependence on Me."* Focusing our thoughts on His majesty, goodness, and ability should silence us from thinking the world or self can do anything and cause us to worship our awesome God. Quietness is a confession of our trust that our Heavenly Father alone, will in His time come to our help. In our daily lives, our soul needs to sink into our nothingness and so let Him work in us and reveal Himself to us. I am learning to abide in quiet reverence, watching and letting Father's love and goodness knit us together.

Waiting Must be with Holy Expectancy

Webster's dictionary defines *wait* as *to stay or rest in expectation; to suspend any business in expectation of some person or event*. When a woman finds out she is pregnant, neither she nor others can see any evidence that a new life is being formed in her womb. Yet she waits patiently fully expecting a baby to come forth after nine months! That is the kind of attitude we need when it comes to God's promises. We need to wait expectantly letting the seed of His Word grow in our hearts until we see it manifest. Are you waiting in rest with an expectation of something good happening in your life? In **Psalms 39:7** David put all his confidence and faith in God as he says, *"And now, Lord, what do I wait for? My hope is in You."* The more we know a person and his character, the more we will believe and trust his words. Father wants us to place our hope and trust in Him, expecting Him to fulfill exactly what He has promised in His Word.

A joyful expectancy is the very essence of true waiting. **Micah 7:7** says, *"Therefore*



will I look to the Lord; I will wait for the God of my salvation; my God will hear me." There is no doubt expressed in this statement, only a holy expectancy of Father acting. Micah teaches us that we should be on the lookout for what we requested. Waiting on Father must be with an attitude of confident assurance. Continuing to wait for His promises to be fulfilled is the challenge that believers have faced for centuries. His timing is often not ours, but He encourages us to not grow weary in our waiting for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart. (**Gal. 6:9**) As we approach this Christmas season and the first coming of Jesus to the earth to redeem man from his sin, consider Simeon and how he confidently waited *"for the Consolation of Israel."* (**Luke 2:25**) He fully believed he would not die until he saw the Lord's Christ.

Waiting also includes the idea of being inwardly ready to take something, to receive and embrace it without any reservation or hesitation. The Bible records Joseph of Arimathea as someone who was *"waiting for the Kingdom of God."* (**Mark 15:43**) He was not just hanging around to see what happens, but he was actively looking for the Kingdom and had a spiritual hunger even though he had not been one of Jesus' followers. In **Acts 3:2-5** the lame man looked to Peter and John *"expecting to receive something from them."* The Greek word for expecting, *pros dokao*, means to watch and anticipate. Are we daily watching for and anticipating the good that Father is bringing our way?

One of the greatest things we can wait for is Christ being fully formed within and that we may be filled with all the fullness of God. This promise is found in **Philippians 3:20-21**, *"...we eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself."* Too often we fail to believe He is able to change us into the image of Christ. We each need to spend more time looking into the eyes of Jesus which will bring us into a place of intimate fellowship between us and Him. Our fellowship with Him will remove fear, impatience, and uncertainties. The result will be the fulfillment of **Romans 8:19**, *"For the earnest expectation of creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God."*

The world is watching with an intense anticipation of someone to act like Jesus and show them who God made them to be too!

While the world may be getting darker, this is the time for us to *"eagerly wait for Him. He will appear a second time, apart from sin for salvation."* (**Heb. 9:28**) May we live each day remembering that this earth is only our temporary home. When Jesus left He promised, He is coming back to take us to our heavenly home. Every day we should be ready and waiting expectantly for His return. (**Acts 1:11; 1 Thess. 4:16-17; Luke 12:40**) Do you see yourself as the bride of Christ? If so then, are you waiting expectantly for your Bridegroom to come for you? (**John 3:39**) We need to live expecting His kingdom in our lives? He is challenging me to be more aware of the heavenly realm and what is going on there rather than being ruled by the things of this world.

Knowing that Father is Working

Do we really believe that He is working all the time? **Isaiah 64:4** tells us *"God acts for one who waits for Him."* In the past month Father has highlighted many verses that speak about His desire to act and work in my behalf. We first have to understand that

there is nothing we can ever do to make ourselves right with God. Only Jesus' work of becoming sin for us and

taking our judgment to the cross could complete what was necessary for us to be Father's children again. Paul said that what he does is a result of *"... His working which works in me mightily."* (**Col. 1:29**) We are also told that *"being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ."* (**Phil. 1:6**) Let us rejoice that our heavenly Father *"works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure."* (**Phil. 2:13**)

The more we believe that He is working all the time, the more we can wait ex-

pecting Him to perfect what concerns us. Our greatest need is to be *"strengthened by His Spirit – not a brute strength but a glorious inner strength."* (**Eph. 3:16**) The supply of His Spirit will make the difference in our lives. We need to see Him doing the work as only He can change us and every situation. *"He who calls you is faithful, who also will do it."* (**1 Thess. 5:24**) Every parent wants their children to experience only good; how much more our Heavenly Father wants good for us! First, we must learn to rest secure in His love then we can trust Him to rebuild and remold our lives. Cultivating intimate fellowship with Him will remove the hindrances of fear, impatience, and questions as we experience the tender heart interaction that He desires with each of us. These habits remove any pressure from us to perform and allows us to say, *"This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes."* (**Ps. 118:23**) We can boldly walk in our earnest expectation and hope that in nothing we will be ashamed because we have a big Daddy that can do great things! (**Phil. 1:20**)

It is important that we do not get too preoccupied with our work. As with Martha, the very service we want to give the Master can separate us from Him. Jesus was quick to tell Martha that Mary had chosen the good part, which will not be taken away from her. (**Luke 10:41**) The more work we have to do, the more we need to spend time waiting upon Father. Our doing things in our own strength will only exhaust us. Has the Lord given you a vision of your future and things He has for you to do? Don't rush into doing it until you have taken time to wait on Father to show you His plan and timing to accomplish it.

Focus on staying in the sunshine and the light of Father's love! While the trees and flowers unconsciously drink the blessing of His light, we must consciously choose His grace and loving acceptance. If there is darkness in our lives, He asks us to simply wait for His light to shine in our hearts even more. He is to be our unceasing source of joy and gladness! Bask in His love while you let Him fill you with joy and gladness! I close with the words of **Isaiah 30:18**, *"Therefore the Lord will wait that He may be gracious to you; and therefore He will be exalted, that He may have mercy on you. For the Lord is a God of justice. Blessed are all those who wait for Him."* Amen, so be it in each of your lives!



A Blessing for You:

I bless you with Ps. 66:5, *"Come and see what God has done, how awesome His works in man's behalf."* I bless you with seeing your Father's fingerprints on your life. I bless you with remembering and celebrating His mercy and grace in all that touches you. I bless you with coming to your Heavenly Father, drawing near with your heart and your spirit to Him. I bless you with resting in His love knowing He only has good plans for your life. I bless you with the room to breathe free, to become, to grow, to fill the whole frame of God's masterpiece that He is painting of your life. I bless you with letting Father work in you both to will and to do His good pleasure.



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