

SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE



STORIES YOU SHOULD KNOW
CHAD BRUEGMAN
OCTOBER 15, 2023

If you would like to watch the message, visit rpc.me/messages.

ICEBREAKER

- Which would you choose if you could use one of these for the rest of your life: a microwave or a crock pot?
- Would you rather play chess or checkers?

READ

2 Peter 3:8-9

QUESTIONS

- What does this passage say about God's timing? (God is not bound by time and space, God's timeframe is fundamentally different than ours. God is not in as big of a hurry as you and I.)
- What do verses 8 and 9 reveal about God's character? (God has control over all things - God is sovereign, God is always on time, God is patient, God is all-knowing or omniscient)
- How does it challenge you to know that God's timing is different from yours?
- When has there been a time in your life when God did not answer your prayer in the timing that you preferred?

READ

Exodus 13:17-18

- What are the two different routes described in these verses? (A direct route versus a long way around route, a route that would take approximately a few weeks versus a route that would take 40 years)
- Why did God lead the Israelites the long way around to their destination? (God knew the dangers ahead on the short path and knew the Israelites were not ready for war against the Philistine country.)
- Why is the shortest route not always the best route? Briefly share an example from your own life.
- How do microwaves and crock pots cook differently? (A microwave cooks food fast and from the outside in. However, a crock pot cooks food slowly, for hours and hours enhancing the flavor while cooking the food from the inside out.)
- Chad said, “We were born in the era of a microwave society yet we serve a crock pot God.” How does knowing that God is a marinator, not a microwave, encourage you in a season of waiting? (God cares about your character and wants to develop your heart and mind so you can persevere in the purposes He has for you, God will never hurry at the expense of our health or safety.)
- Read Proverbs 16:9, what does this verse tell us about our role in making plans?
- How do we be a people who learn the art of waiting well?
- Read Isaiah 40:31. How could you encourage someone who is in a season of waiting? (Lean in and trust God, Waiting and delays is where God is doing His best work in you, God cares more about your character, the development of your heart and mind, that which will sustain you than what you’re quest.)

THE THREE QUESTIONS: The following questions are intended to be open-ended and encourage members to consider how they felt and what they, or the group, can do as a result of hearing the message.

- **What did you hear?** What point in this message was most impactful for you?
- **What do you think?** How did this message challenge, change, or affirm your thinking?
- **What will you do?** How will you or your group put into practice what you’ve learned today?

CLOSE IN PRAYER: How can the group pray for you now and in the days ahead?

LEADERS: Mark your calendars for the “Concert in the Yard” on **Thursday, October 26th at 5:30pm**. We’ll have some of your favorite musicians. Bring your blanket, chairs, grab a turkey leg from The Grill, and your group and come hang out!