

"NOW WHAT?!?!"

Acts 1:4-14

I. INTRODUCTION

Patience is a lost virtue because we live in an instant gratification society! The days of investing spiritual, financial, and human capital into anything worth having as our forefathers had are seemingly sparse and practically extinct today! In many ways, our society celebrates a sense of entitlement over having a good work ethic and expending time, energy, and effort! Advances in technology have placed the world at our literal fingertips and only served to further feed our "microwave mentality" mindsets. It is no accident that God intentionally made patience an indispensable aspect of the fruit of the Spirit!

Now that the pageantry and pomp and circumstance (which attempts to overshadow the empty Tomb) of Resurrection Sunday is over, **NOW WHAT!?!?** Well, we wait!!!! But, this is not ordinary waiting. Rather, it is waiting a period filled with joyful expectation! The question is what do you do when your life is in a spiritual holding pattern? How do you behave? What strategies do you employ? Impatience can lead to poor decisions, and those decisions can lead to catastrophic consequences. Today's sermon examines some "dos" and "don'ts" when you are waiting on a promise from God! Yes, you might feel delayed right now, but delayed does not mean denied!!! Be assured today that if God promised it, Romans 4:21 reminds us, we can be "fully convinced that what He has promised He is also able to perform!" The Promise (your promise) is on its way!

II. Pray!

A. Have an attitude of prayer!

B. P.U.S.H.!

C. Pray with expectation!

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 Psalm 63:1-5

1 John 5:14-15

III.	OBEY!	
	A. Seek God's face, not hand!	John 14:15-18
	B. Our agendas must bow down!	v.6; Matthew 26:39
	C. Obedience commands God's blessings!	Deuteronomy 28:1-14
IV.	NITE! A. Unity commands God's blessings! B. Community creates accountability! C. In which direction are you headed?	Psalm 133:1-3; 1 John 5:6-8 Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 Amos 3:3
V.	REMEMBER! A. Don't get spiritual amnesia! B. Remember, reflect, repent, rejoice! C. Your future depends on your total recall!	v.4 Psalm 136 Deuteronomy 6:20-25

VI. CONCLUSION

God has promised or even shown many of us glimpses of His glory! You might be asking God, "Now What?" or "How long, Lord?" My advice to you is if you have not clearly heard or received instructions from the Lord, then the best thing you can do is nothing! In other words, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths." When we are impatient, we experience feelings of worry, anxiety, fear, doubt, and more. These are not of God!! Making rushed or emotional decisions usually do not turn out well. Learn to P.O.U.R. into yourself and others while you wait!