

## Waiting on The Lord

*Scripture quotations are from the NKJV unless otherwise noted.*

**1 Samuel 3:9** Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and it shall be, if He calls you, that you must say, 'Speak, LORD, for Your servant hears.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

In this account of Samuel's life in service to the Lord, as a young man he heard the voice of God, but did not recognize it. He is told by Eli, the High Priest, to "Go, lie down ...." In other words, wait for the Lord to call again and respond with "Speak, LORD, for Your servant hears."

There are two meanings to the word *wait*.

*Merriam-Webster's Dictionary*

1. to stay in place in expectation of
2. to serve

Both of these definitions apply to our lives before God.

In one sense we are eagerly waiting for the next thing God has for us either to do or experience. (**Romans 8:25, Galatians 5:5, Philippians 3:20**)

Another part of this definition is "stay in place." In another sense it can be said we are not moved from our position before the Lord. We are determined in our actions to remain steadfast in our faith to God. (**1 Corinthians 15:58, Colossians 1:21-23**)

Our steadfastness in waiting on the Lord is bolstered by our faith and hope given to us through the Word. (**Hebrews 6:19-20, 2 Peter 1:3-4**)

As a part of our *waiting* and not being moved from our steadfastness, we are also *waiting* on the Lord in service to Him.

Again we look to the Word in the letter from Paul to the church in Corinth and his admonition to them and ultimately to us. (**1 Corinthians 15:58**)

In this verse we see the word *abounding*, meaning with an overflowing of works for His cause. (**Matthew 5:16, Ephesians 2:10**)

We are also encouraged by the Word to continue to do the things taught to us by the Lord and His apostles through example and admonitions. (**Galatians 6:9, 2 Thessalonians 3:13, Revelation 2:1-3**)

What are some of these *good works* we are to be engaged in?

The Bible is full of examples and instructions that speak to our lives doing good works.

First and foremost we are to Love God with all that is within us. Second is to "love our neighbors as ourselves." (**Mark 12:30-31, Luke 10:27, 1 John 5:2**)

Paul wrote to the church in Galatia to serve one another. This instruction reaches to us also.  
**(Galatians 5:13)**

The writer of **Hebrews** gives some other ideas for serving. **(Hebrews 13:1-3)**

Our focus in this life is on God first and our fellow man next. The focus on ourselves takes third place.

However, our service also comes with the promise of a reward after doing these good works. **(1 Corinthians 3:14, Colossians 3:23-24, Revelation 22:12)**

The conclusion to all of this is to *wait **for*** the Lord as our lives play out to the end, and *wait **on*** the Lord by doing the things that we have been instructed to do and are shown by example.  
**(Philippians 2:3)**

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