

A bald eagle is shown in flight, its wings spread wide. The eagle's head is white, and its body is dark brown. The background is a soft, out-of-focus green. The eagle is positioned centrally, with its wings filling most of the frame.

Being Biblically Spiritual

A Series of Short Teachings

How To: Wait Upon The Lord

Dads' UNI

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How To: Wait Upon the Lord

Being Biblically Spiritual

Being Biblically Spiritual is a collection of short teachings that focus on the practical application of some of the spiritual truths found within the scriptures of the Bible. In no way should this be considered an exhaustive list, nor should it be considered the only way to spiritually apply these biblical truths. We hope that you find simple spiritual keys that will encourage and inspire your Christian faith and daily spiritual walk with God.

Introduction

As we continue the How-To Series we are identifying specific biblical principles that are found in scripture and explaining how we can apply them in our daily spiritual walk with God. Grabbing hold of these simple principles can revolutionize your prayer life and help you to find your God-ordained position in Christ.

I hope that as you read and meditate upon these teachings you may find the heavenly joy that is available to all of God's children. That you would be equipped and empowered daily to step into a closer walk with and trust upon our Saviour Jesus Christ

Scripture Reference

But those who wait on the Lord Shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint

(Isaiah 40:31)

Biblical Principles for Believers to Access

Throughout God's Word, we occasionally find specific scriptures that have the potential for far wider application in our spiritual lives. This is because they hold within them a promise and spiritual principle that we as believers can learn from initially and then as disciples of Christ apply in our daily lives.

In my own experience both as a believer and as a minister I have found God's people hungry for practical keys that can help them experience a closer walk with their Saviour. It takes time to grow and develop the spiritual maturity we all desire, but finding powerful biblical principles in the Scriptures can greatly assist us in this endeavor.

Wait Upon The Lord

"But those who wait on the Lord"



To understand what the writer was referring to in this scripture we must take a look at the original language that it was written in, which in this case was **Hebrew**.

The word 'wait' in Isaiah 40:31 is the Hebrew word 'qavah'

The literal meaning of this word is "to bind together like a cord." or, "the twisting or winding of a strand of cord or rope."

Earlier in my life when I enjoyed some time traveling, I spent a season living in the beautiful rainforest of North Queensland, Australia. While living there I often enjoyed a cool and refreshing swim in the crystal clear waters that flowed through the forest. Afterward, as I walked home, I appreciated the sight of ancient trees with huge vines climbing up them and wrapped around them. Little did I know that this memory would one day be used by God to teach me this principle from His word!

Therefore the literal meaning of "waiting upon the Lord" is to **bind yourself to Him** or **twist yourself around Him** like a vine climbs up a tree. This is achieved through opening up our hearts to His indwelling Holy Spirit and drawing close to Him in our spiritual imagination.

Renew Their Strength

"Shall renew their strength"

The Hebrew word for 'renew' in Isaiah 40:31 is 'halap'

which has the following meaning :

To change, substitute, alter, change for better, renew.

The Biblical Principle of Exchange

"But those who wait on the Lord Shall renew their strength"

Therefore if we combine these two Hebrew words together they literally say:

"But those who bind themselves to or twist around the Lord shall substitute or exchange their strength for His strength"



These days many of the exchanges are done instantly by using smartphones or debit cards. We all make exchanges every day. We exchange hours of our life to an employer for a weekly paycheck, then we exchange some of that money received for groceries at the store and other things that we tend to need daily. **These are Natural Exchanges.**

When I grew up we would keep all our small change in a safe place and save up for something we wanted, and when we finally had the amount required we would happily go off to the store and exchange our savings for the product. **This is a Natural Exchange**

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Even before my childhood, many people operated upon a **barter system** where they exchanged the products that they had for the products that others had. Sometimes they had more eggs than they wanted and they exchanged them for some vegetables that their neighbor grew. These also were **Natural Exchanges**

As we spend time in God's presence, drawing closer to Him through **humbling ourselves in prayer** and seeking His wisdom in His Word, and loving Him in praise and worship we can begin to thank Him for His strength flowing into our lives. Empowering our bodies and minds with His ability, His grace, and mercy, His joy and freedom, His provision and abundance. These are **Spiritual Exchanges**

Biblical Examples of The Principle of Exchange

(Psalm 27:14) Wait on the Lord; Be of good courage, And He shall strengthen your heart; Wait, I say, on the Lord!

* For those times when you may feel that you can't go on any further God will strengthen your heart and renew your courage as you wait upon His strength!

(Psalm 30:11) You have turned for me my mourning into dancing; You have put off my sackcloth and clothed me with gladness

* God's presence in our lives can transform times of mourning and replace them with dancing and gladness

(John 15:5) "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing

* By abiding in His presence we can increase our fruitfulness in our Christian walk

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(Isaiah 61:3) To console those who mourn in Zion, To give them beauty for ashes, The oil of joy for mourning, The garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; That they may be called trees of righteousness, The planting of the Lord, that He may be glorified."

* If we are feeling low or depressed, waiting upon the Lord enables us to exchange our sadness for joy by entering into praise. This is one of the best examples of spiritual exchange in scripture.

(Hebrews 11:34-35)

... quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, became valiant in battle, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. Women received their dead raised to life again.....

* God's supernatural strength and protection are available to all those who learn to enjoy His presence often

(Isaiah 53:4-5) Surely He has borne our griefs And carried our sorrows; Yet we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and afflicted. But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed

* Forgiveness, Peace, and Healing are ours in Christ through faith in the wonderful promises He has given us in His Word, the Bible.

How can we Mount Up Like Eagles?

(1 Corinthians 2:14) But the natural man does not receive the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned

When God speaks about mounting up like eagles there are several analogies that we could use, but today I would like to focus on two of my favorites. Eagles often nest either at the top of tall trees or inaccessible places upon the summit of a mountain. From these positions, they can launch into the sky as they search for up-draughts that will take them to the **thermal winds** where they can soar for extended periods with little or no physical effort. When we learn how to wait upon the Lord it's like finding the thermal winds that can help us soar effortlessly into the heavens with God!

*** Everything becomes easier to accomplish when we begin to work WITH God, rather than merely FOR God!**

As they climb to great heights upon the thermals they begin to scan the land far below them by using what has been classified by some researchers as **Eagle Vision**

This ability allows them to spot prey from miles away even though it is well camouflaged. Spiritual discernment is sometimes explained as the ability to see or know things that can not be seen or known by our natural senses but instead come through the revelation of the Holy Spirit.

*** As believers grow in their ability to walk closely with the Holy Spirit they will find a deeper sense and understanding of what God is doing and saying in their lives.**

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How can we Run and Not Grow Weary or Walk and Not Faint?

(Hebrews 10:36) For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise

(Galatians 6:9) And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart

It has been said that walking with God throughout life is a marathon race rather than a sprint. It is therefore vital that we find a strategy that works, and which we can maintain long-term so that we can last the distance.

One of the greatest keys to successfully walking with God is to make Him and keep Him as the first love of your life. When spending time with Jesus becomes the most joyful experience in your life, you will be drawn to Him often throughout the day.

The result of waiting upon Jesus and spending time with Him will be an overflow of the abundant life He promised us! Courage is renewed, faith is renewed, strength and endurance are renewed, hope and joy are renewed.

* When we wait upon the Lord we have more life than we need, so we can shine our light brightly for God and share the overflowing life with many of those we meet throughout our day.

(John 10:10) The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly

God Bless

The Ministry Of Dads' UNI

Dads' UNI is an Online Ministry based in Australia and is focused on providing simple biblical teaching to assist young men in Growing Families God's Way.

All Dads' UNI resources are provided free of charge, and we encourage those who enjoy our teachings to share them freely among family and friends.

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