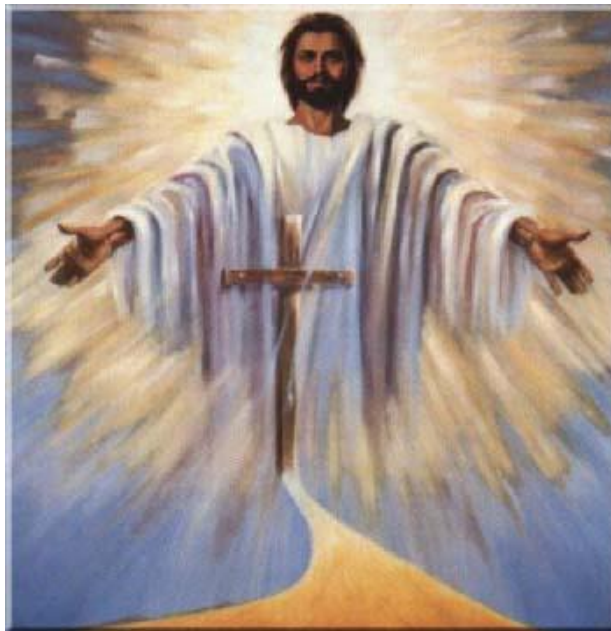


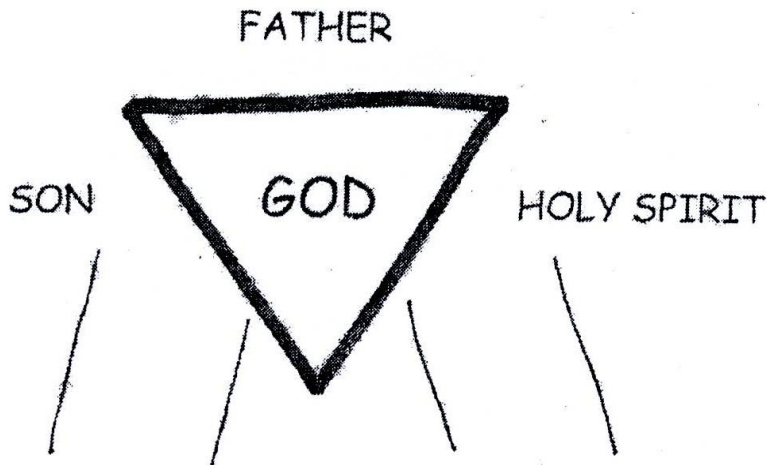
Wait for the Lord!

Part 2

8-26-2016

Psalm 27:14 Wait for the LORD; be strong and let your heart take courage; yes, wait for the LORD.



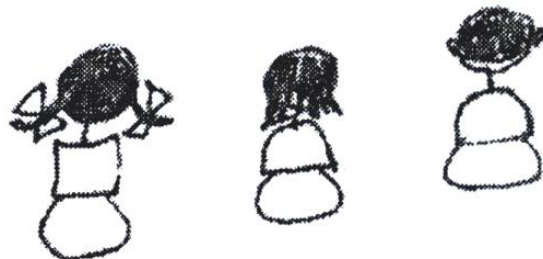


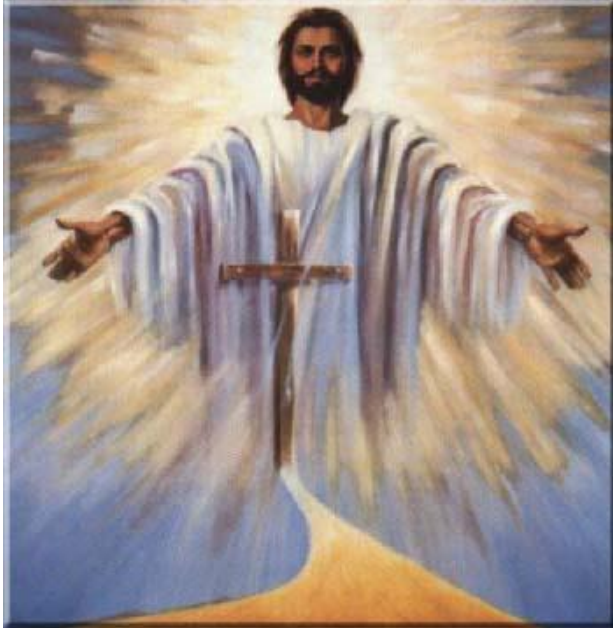
God is waiting for us to wait for Him! Sometimes we might think, "Come on God! Hurry up!" We want things done in our timing. However, that would not be good for us - and not good for those

around us! God knows exactly what we need and when we need it. He knows what everyone around us needs and when they need it. We can become very selfish just thinking of our own needs. God is waiting for us to have faith in Him and His provisions for us and for others!

Isaiah 30:18 Therefore the LORD waits to be gracious to you, and therefore he exalts himself to show mercy to you. For the LORD is a God of justice; blessed are all those who wait for him.

(In the Old Testament, "LORD" in all capitals is the word used for God.)





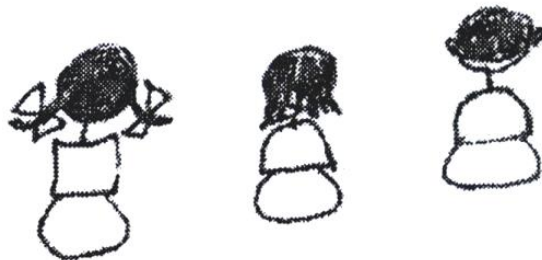
God is giving us the opportunity to increase our faith in Him! God the Son came to earth, took on humanity, and became our Savior! God is giving us the opportunity to see that **He will always take care of us!** Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is the Lord of our life! He is in charge! He is God and He is our Savior!



While we are waiting, God is busy working things out for our benefit! We are to keep our eyes on Jesus. When we become impatient and uncomfortable waiting, we take our eyes off Him! However, this makes

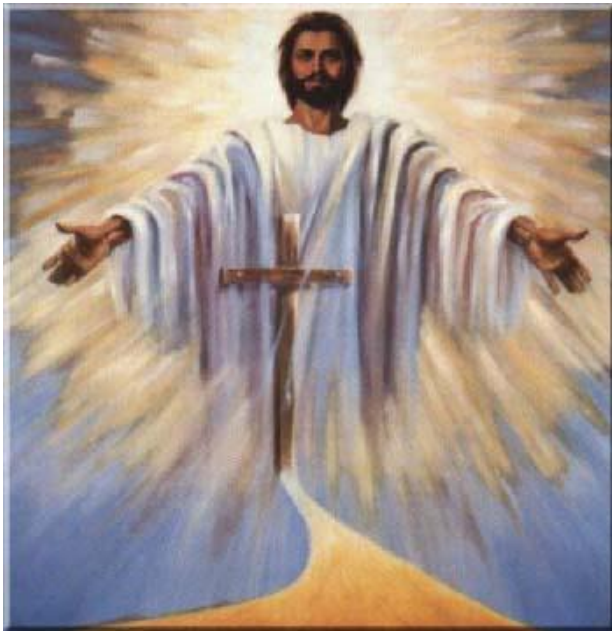
us more uncomfortable! Oh, how we squirm! When we keep our eyes on Jesus Christ, with the power of God the Holy Spirit, we can wait as long as God wants us to wait!

Micah 7:7 But as for me, I will look to the LORD; I will wait for the God of my salvation; my God will hear me.





How many times have you smelled something good baking in the oven and you just can't wait until it is ready to eat? That's easy waiting. Then there are the times when we don't know how something difficult will turn out. We have to wait and see how God will handle it for us. That is more difficult waiting. The important part is knowing that **HE WILL WORK IT OUT FOR OUR GOOD** and we have the power of God the Holy Spirit helping us to wait! He will work it out according to His good will for us! God is "cooking" something good for us. We just can't see it or smell it! However, we can always have faith that God is doing just that!



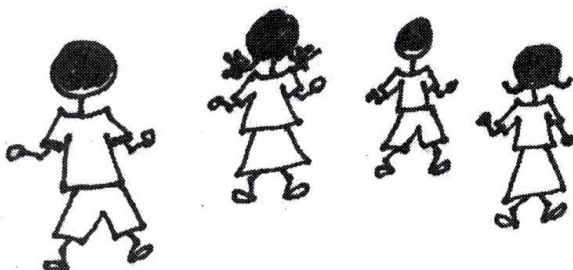
Romans 8:28 And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.



In Daniel 3:1-30, it tells of Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego being placed in an **extremely** hot furnace. (Much hotter than your kitchen oven!) This happened because they would not fall down and worship the golden image as King Nebuchadnezzar had ordered. God had prepared these men to be able to face **strong** adversity. And the fiery furnace was strong adversity! They knew their God, the only true God, could deliver them from the fiery ordeal. However, no matter if God saved them from the fire or not, they would not serve the king's gods or worship the golden image; they would only serve and worship the true God! They waited on the Lord and had great faith! They kept their eyes on God! They knew He would help them one way or another. And He did! He delivered them out of the HOT furnace!! Not even one hair on their heads was burned!

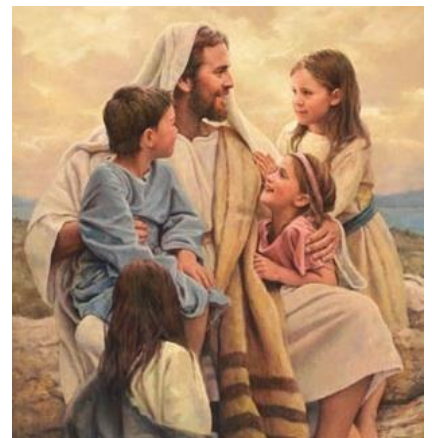


Daniel 3:17-18 If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the furnace of blazing fire; and He will deliver us out of your hand, O king. But even if He does not, let it be known to you, O king, that we are not going to serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up.



God always gives us the way to prepare for stressful situations. As Church Age believers, we have **God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit** abiding or living inside of us! They are our constant Companions! And that is not all - God has given us His word in the Bible! It's up to us to learn the word of God through the power of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit will be our Power and Guide through our "fiery" situations.

When we are actually living through stressful situations, we can always count on God to see us through them. He wants our cooperation! We are to use the power of the Holy Spirit; we are to have our eyes on Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord! He lived through the most stressful situations and He shows us in the Bible how He did it! God makes things better in our souls when we cooperate with Him! Many times He changes our attitudes for the better before He changes our circumstances for the better. It may take a long time for the circumstances to change. No problem; God is with us all the way!



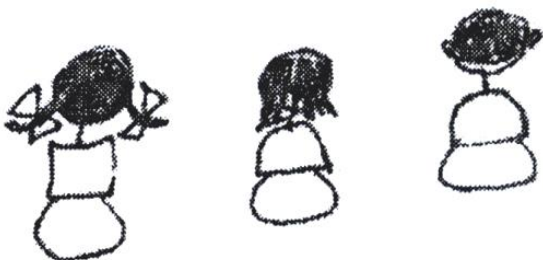
Lamentations 3:25 The LORD is good to those who wait for him, to the soul who seeks him.

Deuteronomy 31:6 Be strong and courageous, do not be afraid or tremble at them, for the LORD your God is the one who goes with you. He will not fail you or forsake you.

How can we learn to wait for the LORD if we never have to wait for Him? He starts us out waiting for little things - you name it. Then as we learn more about His love for us, He makes the waiting a little more difficult. And He always comes through for us according to His will for what is best for us! This encourages us to trust Him and wait on His timing for things in our lives. Even when He brings us to the very edge, He is always there to carry us through the scary situation. Look what He did for Shadrach, Meshach and Abed-nego! God is our Deliverer! Waiting for Him pleases Him; when He comes through for us, He receives great glory because He does the work! Wait for the LORD!



Psalm 27:14 Wait for the LORD; be strong and let your heart take courage; yes, wait for the LORD.



Waiting on the Lord doesn't mean that we just sit around doing nothing. We wait in our souls for God to work out our problems; we are to "do our jobs for the Lord."

We are to: Study the word of God - as for the Lord.



Obey our parents - as for the Lord,
Do our chores - as for the Lord,
Help our friends - as for the Lord,
Do our school work - as for the Lord,
Play with our friends - as for the Lord.

Children
obey your
parents
in the Lord,
for this is
right.....

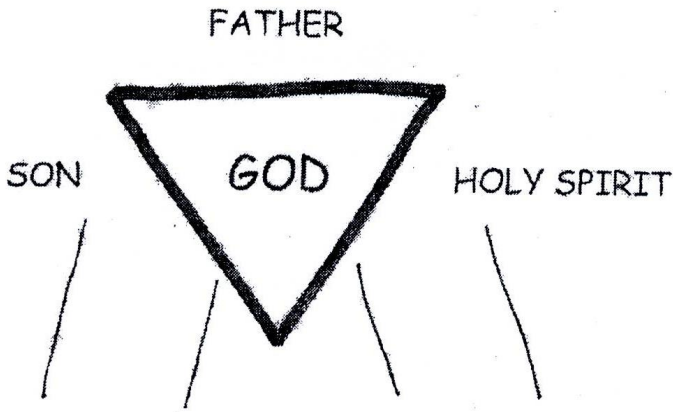


I'm sure you can think of other things we are to do for the Lord. In fact, we are to live as for the Lord. He is our life!



Colossians 3:23 Whatever you do, do your work heartily, as for the Lord rather than for men.





We have the comfort of our always loving and compassionate God waiting with us! We are to wait with Him while He teaches us. God is teaching us lessons He wants us to learn. **God wants us to learn to trust in Him for**

everything! He is training us to have simple faith in Him. God the Holy Spirit teaches us through the Scriptures in the Bible. We are to hold onto what He teaches us and remain in our faith in God. The Holy Spirit gives us the power to wait and to do what the Scriptures tell us to do - even in the most difficult times! Our waiting on the Lord will have great results - results which **God wants for us!**

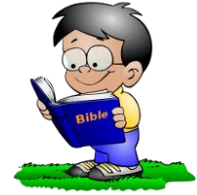
Psalm 130:5 I wait for the LORD, my soul does wait, and in His word do I hope [have confidence].

2 Corinthians 12:9 And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness."



God gives us many promises in the Bible about waiting and trusting in the LORD. Here are a few.

Proverbs 3:5-6 Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.



Isaiah 40:31 But they who wait for 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 41:10 Do not fear, for I am with you; do not anxiously look about you, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, surely I will help you, surely I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.

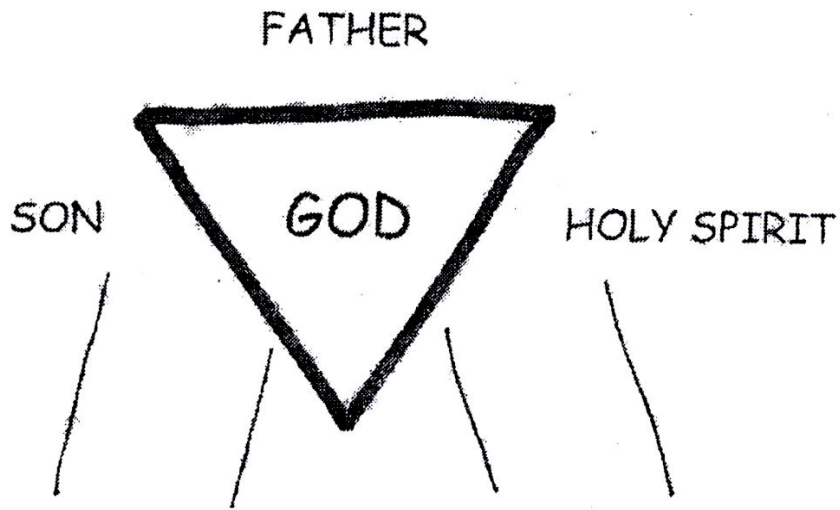
Romans 8:26-27 In the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words; and He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

Romans 8:28 And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.

Jeremiah 29:11 'For I know the plans that I have for you,' declares the LORD, 'plans for welfare and not for calamity to give you a future and a hope.'



Romans 8:31 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who is against us?



Romans 8:35-37 Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? Just as it is written, "FOR YOUR SAKE WE ARE BEING PUT TO DEATH ALL DAY LONG; WE WERE CONSIDERED AS SHEEP TO BE SLAUGHTERED." But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us.

Hebrews 10:23-25 Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful, and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.

