

A large, lush bouquet of green bell-shaped flowers, possibly Campanula medium, is arranged in a dark brown, textured ceramic vase. The flowers are in various stages of bloom, with some fully open and others as buds. The leaves are dark green and elongated. The bouquet is placed on a grey, textured, cylindrical pedestal. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

52 Weeks of Power

WEEK 31

Week 31



Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

Hebrews 12:1-3

We live in a world that hates waiting. Two-day shipping feels too long, slow Wi-Fi is frustrating, and unexpected pauses in life can lead to distraction. Yet the Bible shows us that delay is not denial, it's often God's discipleship tool.

Hebrews 12 reminds us to "run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus." In other words, delays are not roadblocks; it's a place where we can be shaped and formed into who God wants us to be.

Delays expose our addiction to comfort.

We pray for open doors but sometimes cling to the locks that hold us back. In the pause, God invites us to loosen our grip on convenience and lean into His best.

Delays confront the cracks in our soul.

Waiting exposes the places where we need more of Jesus. God loves us too much to promote what He hasn't yet healed.

Delays shatter the idol of control. When we obsess over timelines, it reveals our distrust in God. Waiting reminds us that destiny can't be rushed, it's discovered through discipline.

Delays purify what we call success. True success is not achieving our timeline, but aligning with God's will.

So the next time you feel stuck in the “down time,” remember, it's not wasted time. It's preparation. God is shaping your character, strengthening your faith, and setting you up for something greater than you could imagine.

REFLECT:

Question 1: Where in your life do you feel delayed right now, and how might God be using this season to deepen your endurance and refine your heart?

Question 2: In what ways have you treated pauses like prisons instead of pulpits?

Question 3: What comforts or timelines might God be asking you to release so you can trust His heart more fully?

PRAYER:

Lord, help me see delays not as disappointments but as discipleship. Teach me to wait with endurance, to trust Your timing, and to grow in character while I wait. Amen.