

# ***Seven Spiritual Gifts of Waiting***

By Holly W. Whitcomb

## **Chapter 1: Patience**

*Do you have the patience to wait till your mud settles and the water is clear? Can you remain unmoving Till the right action arises by itself?*

--Lao – tzu, *Tao Te Ching*

*Patience means trusting there's no quick fix.*

- What situation in your life is currently demanding that you wait?
- How is this waiting teaching you patience?
- What would you like to ask from God about your patience, or impatience?
- What wisdom would you pass along to a younger person about living with patience?

*2. Patience invites us to trust the fullness of God's time.*

- When have you experienced the fullness of God's time in your life?
- Did you ever receive a "no" that was a prelude to a far greater "yes"?
- How are you waiting for God?
- How is God waiting for you?

*3. Patience opens us to active waiting.*

- How have you been empowered by "active waiting"?
- Is there a situation in which you could wait more actively right now?
- What could you do to participate in the waiting more fully?

*4. Patience gives us time to be available to others.*

- Who is genuinely present and available to you in your life?
- How are you available to others?
- What obstacles get in the way of your availability?
- How are you available to God?
- How might waiting help you to be more available to others?

## **Scripture Passages**

Psalm 25

Isaiah 40:28-31

Galatians 4:4a

Ephesians 1:8b-10

Mark 1:14-15

Meditated on the Lao-tzu quote at the top of the first page about patience. After sitting with these words for a few minutes, write a prayer asking God for patience in whatever you are waiting for at this time in your life.