



## Part 2: “The Waiting Room”

### Introduction

We all hate to wait. That’s partially why we struggle with heaven. Sure, it sounds great, but the idea of what’s to come isn’t really doing anything for us with what’s right now, especially when life isn’t going well. What should we do when we aren’t sure we can wait? The apostle Paul has an idea.

### Discussion Questions

1. Finish this sentence. “I hate waiting for \_\_\_\_\_.”
2. What’s the emotional difference between waiting for something known (i.e., waiting in line to ride a familiar roller coaster) and waiting for something unknown (i.e., waiting to see a new doctor’s prognosis).
3. Verses like Revelation 21:4 help shape our idea of heaven. But nobody really knows exactly what heaven looks like. That makes “waiting for heaven” a challenge. What do you picture heaven looking like?
4. Read Philippians 3:20–21. When you realize you belong above, it changes how you see the things below. How has the reality of heaven shifted your perspective on your current life?
5. To set our hearts and minds above while struggling in the world below takes faith. It takes trust. What does this kind of “patiently waiting with faith” look like in your life?

### Moving Forward

Given how much brokenness, sadness, and frustration we experience, being homesick for heaven seems natural. But while we are here, we don’t have to allow the world around us to dominate our hearts and minds. Jesus didn’t die so we could be miserable on earth and eventually happy in heaven. Jesus came to bring heaven to earth. Jesus died so we could experience him now and then—in the below and in the above.

### Changing Your Mind

*Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.*

**Hebrews 11:1**