

around the village, it was rare to see a car in someone's yard, very rare, so rare it seemed out of place if we did see one. Usually every one walks, or they take the local donkey or the taxi that looks very precarious. In Honduras people don't get a rash when you mention the word "wait." In fact, the verb *to wait* is the same word as *to hope*. Interesting isn't it? Waiting and hoping actually hold hands.

Active waiting means *to be present fully to the moment*, in the conviction that something is happening where you are and that you want to be present to it. A waiting person is someone who is *present to the moment*, who believe that *this moment is THE moment...* willingness to stay where I am and to live the situation out to the fullest in the belief that something hidden there will manifest itself to me.

What does it mean to be present to the moment? I have read that Samurai warriors practice tuning into the *present to prepare* them for the intense focus of the battle at hand. The article described how current-day counselors are using this ancient practice to help returning soldiers with post-traumatic stress disorder. I have been in the battle from day one of birth... a battle for my mind, body, soul, heart, spirit. I need to be present in the moment of battle, prepared for that which rages in the spirit realm all around me. Ready to do war against the enemy, wrapped in the Presence of my Jehovah, the Warrior. Taking every opportunity, always present to the moment of holding on to His hand of Hope, waiting for His command.

Personally, I am making it my prayer to always be present to the moment. I do not want to miss anything Jehovah God has for me.

A friend recently asked me for scripture to support that concept. I am still looking for specific verses. Immediately, the manna from the Old Testament comes to mind. Manna was God's provision for the day. If the Israelites gathered more it rotted. Too little equaled hunger. I wonder if the manna represents his GRACE. If I have access to God's throne room only in this moment, his grace is available to me only in this moment. I want to live here in this moment because that is where I have access to Him... to His Mercy... and to His Grace.

My waiting is tied to my hoping. I hope for Christ in me – the hope of glory. I hope for his glorious reappearing. I long for His return. Do you?

Cheryl Mong
Prayer Mobilization Team Member



PRAYER MOBILIZATION TEAM
of the Evangelical Congregational Church

HeartCry Prayer Letter and Calendar



WAITING ON GOD

We encountered this stowaway on our recent trip to Honduras. I took this shot from the car going about 55 mph. When you don't have a car, you can get pretty creative in travel plans. He is putting a lot of trust in that string holding the door shut.

Henri Nouwen writes "The secret of waiting is the faith that the seed has been planted, that something has begun."

My son if you accept my words and store up my commands within you, turning your ear to wisdom and applying your heart to understanding, and if you call out for insight and cry aloud for understanding, and if you look for it as for silver and search for it as for hidden treasure, then you will understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God. For the Lord gives wisdom, and from His mouth come knowledge and understanding. Proverbs 2:1-6

The concept of waiting screams from every space in this passage. Cry out and wait. Call out and wait. Search and wait. Wait and find hidden treasures. Are they within me? I pray so.

Wait is a "four-letter" word in *our* culture. However, other cultures value time differently. Very few people in Honduras have cars or modes of transportation that move swiftly along. So if you get in a hurry, well... you could run. It doesn't take long to surrender in a huff of screaming lungs and legs. Hummm. They have to wait. I watched the Arambano residents around me during my recent trip to Honduras, they live without a car. Fact is, when we were walking

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BISHOP'S PRAYER LIST

- ✚ For the District Meeting phase of the Strategic Planning process. Ask that we will respond fully and openly to God's direction. Pray for humility, unity, and a readiness to allow the Lord to cleanse and change our hearts and minds.
- ✚ For the National Ministry Team meeting on October 28 and specifically for wisdom in finding solutions to challenging and complex questions. The Church Planting and Global Ministries 2010 budgets will also be presented for approval.
- ✚ For the work of our commissions on Evangelism and Discipleship, Church Planting, Church Health, and Leadership; all of which meet in October.
- ✚ For the Lord to call out additional church planters and to prompt churches to get involved in church planting.
- ✚ For the Church Center Staff as they adjust duties and roles during Jodi Earhart's maternity leave. Pray for David, Jodi, and the baby as they become a new family. (Due date is November 8)
- ✚ For my own healing of a mild case of sleep apnea along with making a successful adjustment to the nightly use of a C-PAP unit.
- ✚ Praise and thanks to the Lord for His constant goodness. Rejoice in the faithfulness of His people as they continue to joyfully and sacrificially serve in unusual times.



STRATEGIC PLANNING TEAM PRAYER NEEDS

- ✚ Unity among the team members
- ✚ Stay focused and on Task
- ✚ That pride will not hinder our embracing new concepts
- ✚ There will be an atmosphere of Humility at all times
- ✚ That freedom will come from the Fear of Man
- ✚ That they will see the importance of Prayer and Listening to God
- ✚ That their hearing will be tuned to God's desire
- ✚ There would be a willingness to follow where God leads
- ✚ That they will recognize the difference between a good idea and a God idea
- ✚ **Our desire is for all our churches to be praying over these requests for the Strategic Planning Team but also for their local Church and Pastor.**

GLOBAL MINISTRIES PRAYER REQUESTS

- ✚ For sensitivity to God's leading as the GMC continues to engage in the strategic planning process.
- ✚ For clear communication as we endeavor to educate & communicate to the local churches the size, scope and needs of EC missions.
- ✚ For God to raise up individuals and/or couples that will serve as "Mission Mobilizers" helping local churches re-connect with the GMC as we strive to re-vitalize the grass root system of the mission movement in the EC Church.
- ✚ For missionary candidates Dan & Melinda Moury and Nick & Lisa Lakatos as they raise enough funds to be deployed to their field of service.
- ✚ For missionaries Ed & Val Schubert serving in Honduras amidst political unrest. Pray the presidential elections scheduled for the end of November will bring stability to the country.
- ✚ For the needed funds to continue our partnership in vital ministry initiatives with the 500 international EC Churches.
- ✚ For clear direction on how to fund the administration & operation of the GMC staff, office, and day to day operations.
- ✚ For our International Field Directors who oversee churches and guide the ministries in their country on behalf of the EC Church:
 - India: Rev. Lalrosiem Songate
 - Japan: Rev. Nobuo Abe
 - Liberia: Rev. Matthew Gueh
 - Nepal: Rev. TH. Janga
 - Mexico: Rev. Elias Martinez
 - El Retiro Directors (Mexico): Carlos & Martha Reyes
 - Costa Rica: Rev. William Araya
- ✚ For the EC Church in the US to resist the national trend of, "each doing his own thing" and to intentionally network together for the unified purpose of making disciples in all nations.
- ✚ For a mighty church-planting-multiplication-movement right here in the US to reach the lost in our own backyard.

