

All quotes are from Michelle Myers or Somer Phoebus unless otherwise noted.

WAITING:

1. In a season of waiting, how to determine if God is wanting you to be patient, do His work where you are right now, or if he's saying this isn't for you anymore, take a leap of faith and move on. // I would second this. I'm struggling greatly working in the secular field. Are my urges to leave, me or Him. Is it me being uncomfortable or really the Holy Spirit nudging me?

When you are waiting by faith, that means you are holding onto God, not an answer or an outcome. - MM

Hold onto God, not that He's going to answer you with a certain answer or at a certain timeline. - MM

Psalm 13

If you're waiting right now, you're not alone. - MM

David's pain pushed him towards God. - MM

When it comes to our waiting, who we become while we wait is most important.

If we are becoming more like him, then even if it "doesn't go our way" it's a win. - MM

God may still be calling you to say, even if it's hard. - MM

Be in His Word, then we know what God sounds like and what he's already said.

The Holy Spirit will never contradict what God has said in His Word.

2. how do you know whether to just keep praying or when maybe God just isn't saying yes to what you are praying for? Is there a chance a prayer to restore a marriage isn't what God has planned? I think I struggle with how to know when what is being prayed for isn't in Gods plan for my life.

((hugs))

What does God want and can God use any circumstance are two different questions.

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Genesis 2:24

What does God want for your marriage? Look at what God created marriage to be.

Start praying what God intended marriage to be over your marriage.

Pray God's best and God's plan over your home.

3. How do you move forward in answering God's call when you're confident in His calling, but your spouse isn't on the same page?

Obey God first.

Be gentle and aware of other sins. Ask questions and seek to understand, even if it's not reciprocated.

Watch your motives and your attitude.

Proving him wrong is a really bad motive for obeying God.

Anything God has asked you to do will not allow you to forget your home.

When you are waiting, pray for open doors and closed doors. - SP

WORK:

Somer: I will start a new job next week (!!!) How does one begin well when a new door opens?

When you walk into a new place, get yourself in the right frame of mind and heart posture. - SP

Be prayed up. Read scripture. Worship music

You do not have to prove yourself.

Serve huge and love huge.

Somer: My team seems to be in a really low place with the pandemic and moral just feels really heavy and dark. How do I help my team to find joy again in what they're doing and how they're serving instead of an attitude that's more like "just hating life and trying to survive"?

Grab their hand and pull them up.

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You don't have to go down there with them.

It is very hard to walk around for very long with darkness.

Focus on the hope and joy of Jesus. That is not just an optimist standpoint, that's a believers standpoint.

Be examples of joy makers.

Somer + Michelle: I have a few clients that are the most demanding (not in a bad way, they are just the most involved in the work that I do for them. I find myself serving them the most (because they are asking for the most things), and then my less demanding clients, who just don't ask for as much, don't get the same amount of attention. Any advice?

You are responsible for the boundaries that you put with your clients. - SP

People who don't have systems get interrupted the most.

Don't feel unnecessarily guilty with having less contact. - MM

The easier clients make the harder ones worth it. - MM

"Please hesitate to reach out to me" - meme

Somer + Michelle: tips for working for a toxic boss

If you have Jesus in your heart, you have been vaccinated against toxicity.

Kill them with kindness.

Heavenly perspective - weigh it out: this doesn't matter!

Your corporate headquarters or your board room is still a mission field.

See it as opportunity and not as punishment.

Cover them in prayer and don't get your feathers ruffled.

You can't change people. Only God can. - MM

God can change you as you bring that person to Him. - MM

Pray more.

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FAMILY:

Somer: My husband has some bitterness/resentment toward my parents because he thinks they've crossed some boundaries into our family. I know I can't "fix" their relationship so what's a good perspective or mindset or even encouraging scripture to have to remind myself I need to honor and respect my husband first, and to not be so worried about pleasing my parents? It's so hard because I love my husband and parents so much and I just don't get why they can't get along.

Honesty between you and your husband is most important. - MM

God intends for a husband and wife to cling to one another. He calls us to honor our parents.

When it comes to our parents and in-laws, we're given two commands: leave and honor.

Remove your feelings, ask what God's Word says and evaluate.

FAITH:

9. In my networking, I come across a lot of people who ascribe to that vague "spirituality" and "energy-ness". I struggle with how to speak about the Christian faith in a way that relates to that, but makes it clear that it's so much more than their imprecise belief in "something" or the "universe". Like using that as a starting point, but drawing them further than that. Any advice?

Don't walk in with the expectation to prove them wrong and your theology right.

We have life and light. It's a matter of their heart posture, they will be able to see the difference.

Share what God has done through prayer in your life. Draw them to Jesus.

Ask the Lord to be loud.

The conversation doesn't have to always go straight to theology.

Who you serve is light, alive, truth. What they believe is dead.

10. how to surrender when you still have to do/live in it til it's at the "end/fruition"

Waiting and surrender go hand in hand.

You are not surrendering to an outcome. You are surrendering to God.

Surrender is walking with Jesus.

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11. I read in a swHw devo recently that it is possible to be used by God but not have an authentic relationship with Him. I worry that is where I am. I am in the Word daily but I just can't seem to cross over into truly knowing Him. I have little kids now and I want to teach them to know Him, but it's hard because I'm not sure I really do. How can I "cross over"?

God is sovereign. He is over everything. His plan will come to fruition.

He will use this world to fulfill His plan and for His glory.

You can either be a part of it or you can fight against it.

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12. What do I do about my disappointment with my church and Christians around me, and what I perceive as a toxic and hypocritical Christianity?

The church is run by imperfect people.

The church is God's plan A.

Hurt in the church and how we feel about God has to be separate.

Stay connected to the local church.

Be a part of the church where you can be a part of the church (ie serve)

13. Sometimes when I ask non-Christians for prayer requests or offer to pray for them, I feel like there's this big pressure for those prayers to get answered (visibly). Mature Christians can understand that God works in His timing and in His wisdom, so often He doesn't answer prayers when and how we'd like. But for those who aren't believers, I always think it can lead them down this path of "well you said you'd pray for me, why didn't God answer and help me?" I know that shouldn't stop me from offering but any advice on how to approach offering prayer to not-yet Christians?

When you offer to pray for a non-believer, offer what you are praying. Pray for the Lord to show himself and comfort them.

14. What would be your top few (3-5) things to look at and for in a church when you are searching for a new church home?

Love and compassion, not hate and pride.

Outlets for discipleship.

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A place for you to serve.

Look for the fruits of the Spirit.

15. I've heard the term a few times over the past year and wanted to know: What is a spiritual director? How do they fit into our spiritual formation and journey? If we're interested in finding one how should we go about it?

If anyone is going to pour into you Spiritually, it needs to be a place where they are full of scripture, prayer and wisdom from the Word

Spiritual mentorship should be more like discipleship.

You should be cautious about someone not under the authority of the local church.

16. We were chatting with a pastor on Instagram the other day who has been sharing things that have really opened our faith and having us reflect deeper with. He talked about taking up your cross - when we studied and read Matthew chapter 16 we took away that it is more about denying our will for His will. Then the pastor wrote us back saying - "But our will, as Christians, is the same as God's will. And we are never told to deny our will, only Christ said that in this humanity before he went to the Cross." We personally are trying to understand more around our desires being in alignment with God's will for us.

Your affections shape your desires.

Your desires order your priorities.

Pray for God to keep you on the same page - that your desires are His desires.

Our Will aligning with him makes our life much less complicated.