

Read: Isaiah 42:14-21

God Can't Wait for You to See

Isaiah 42:14,16

For a long time I have kept silent,
I have been quiet and held myself back.
But now, like a woman in childbirth,
I cry out, I gasp and pant.
I will lead the blind by ways they have not known,
along unfamiliar paths I will guide them;
I will turn the darkness into light before them
and make the rough places smooth.
These are the things I will do;
I will not forsake them.

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Are there times when you just can't wait to get out of the car because you are so excited? You can't wait to hug Grandma and Grandpa! You can't wait to slide down the waterslide and float in the lazy river! You can't wait to get some popcorn and see the movie that you have been waiting to see for what seems like forever! No matter how excited we are, we often must wait.

The Bible says that God waited like a woman who was going to have a baby. How strange! But remember, after nine months of waiting, a mom can't wait for her baby to be born so she can hold, love, and care for her baby.

What couldn't God wait for? What was God excited about? He wanted to safely guide the blind and cause them to see! The prophet Isaiah wasn't talking about people who had blind eyes, but blind minds and hearts. If a blindfold is over your eyes, you can't see where you are going. If someone told you to run through your home while you were blindfolded, most likely something would get broken, and you would get hurt.

Have you ever experienced a moment of "blindness" that caused hurt? Talking back to parents doesn't show love, but instead it hurts Mom or Dad. Being bossy to friends doesn't let them see a kind person but a selfish one, which means feelings will get hurt and friends could be lost. Sin has blinded every heart and mind so that people cannot see who the true God is or know how to live for God. People who refuse to see that God is their Lord and Savior are not on the path to heaven, but on the road to hell.

But God couldn't wait to take off the blindfold of sin so that you could see that there is only one true God. Jesus' Word is a light that lets you see him as the Savior who died to forgive you all your talking back and selfishness so that you can see God as the Father who loves you. The

Holy Spirit is excited to teach you that you are his child and guide you in a life that honors him as Lord.

It makes God happy that you have his Word so that your faith can see how much Jesus loves you now, and so that your eyes will see him in heaven forever.

The questions below are to help families discuss this devotion. The questions are divided by age group as suggestions, but anyone could reflect on any of the questions as they desire.

Questions for the Younger Children

- Recall the last time you couldn't wait to get out the door of the car. What was the cause of your excitement?
- Can you recall what God was excited to do for you in today's devotion?

Questions for Elementary Age Children

- Identify a recent moment of "blindness" in your life that caused hurt. What helped you to see the "light" and do what was right?
- Which person of the Trinity is there to teach and guide you in a life that honors God?

Questions for Middle School and Above

- List as many things you as a believer can "see" by faith that the unbelieving world can't.
- If God is happy when you have his Word, talk about ways that you can keep God's Word in front of you and on your mind.

Closing Prayer:

Dear Holy Spirit, thank you for opening my eyes of faith through the power of your Word. Every day of my life, cause me to see Jesus as my Savior from sin and to see myself as the child whom God the Father loves. Guide me in the truth so that my life is a reflection of praise and thanks for saving me. Amen.