

Friday, December 8

In Waiting is Believing

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

Romans 15:13 (NRSV)

It's a familiar scene. Big, brown eyes peering over the windowsill, giggles, whispers about who will be the one to ring the doorbell, our names called through the open window. The few hours between Bible Camp and crafts is an insurmountable amount of time for the children in Behchoko to wait. Looking back through the screen, I said to Allie that she still had thirty minutes to wait. She replied, "Then I will wait right here for you." True to her word, she was the first face I saw every evening when the door opened—a face filled with the hopefulness and anticipation. I see the joy of believing in her steadfast confidence that we are worth waiting for, that what she will experience with us is worth waiting for "right here."

We wait. We wait for our next opportunity to spend time with our friends in the North. We wait to see God become flesh in the face of a child eagerly awaiting our time together. We wait to see that joy reflected back to us as a reminder of all that's worth waiting for.

Advent is a time of waiting. Like the Israelites waiting for their Messiah, we find comfort and peace in the knowledge that what is soon to arrive, is definitely worth waiting for. It is also a time to ask ourselves: How are we using this time to prepare ourselves for what's to come? In our waiting time, are we open to seeing God's face in those we meet? Are we open to the joy and peace that believing in God will bring?

Heavenly Father, we thank you that you fill our lives with anticipation and belief in what's to come. Thank you for giving us your Son who continues to provide us with hope in this Advent season. We ask that you remind us to accept and appreciate the joy of this season of waiting. Amen

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