

WALKING WITH JESUS, PATIENTLY

Matthew 3:1-12

December 3, 2019

Trust in the Lord, and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture. Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart. . . Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him: . . .

Psalm 37: 3-4 & 7a

Just over two years ago, I announced my intention to retire. Our organization's Board of Directors chose a search committee and I posted the position and passed along to them the resumes we received. I then left for a long-planned trip overseas. I returned to work after vacation and wondered at not hearing from the committee on a time frame for training my replacement. When I asked about the new director, I was told they had been unsuccessful in their search and thought our not-for-profit should close its doors. I immediately knew this was not a decision I could live with. It was as if I heard God say to me "Your time to rest is not now; your mission is not complete." So I did what I felt called to do and stayed on the job.

While I thought I was ready to retire, God had other plans for me. The past two years I have been privileged to be part of our church's Reaching New People efforts. Unlike my weekday job dealing with seniors, on Sundays I'm involved with children's ministries as we now have children in church each week. Each day I have marveled at how God is changing my focus and I am blessed to see Jesus walking beside me each step of the way. Had I not waited patiently for God, I would have missed so much!

Prayer: Gracious God, Thank you for always knowing the better path for us if we are willing to wait for your lead. As we prepare to celebrate the birth of your son, may we always look to you as we walk through each day. Prepare our hearts as we prepare our homes and churches, that we may be ready to share the great good news with others. We ask your blessing on all we say and do. In his holy perfect name, Amen

Rose Thornburg, Barboursville
rmthornburg52@gmail.com