Hate to Wait?

I met Diego and Gustavo several years ago along the well-rehearsed trails of the George Deukmejian Wilderness Park tucked away in the foothills of the San Gabriel Mountains. They were regulars. So was I. Whenever our paths would cross, I was treated by big smiles (the kind that emanate from big hearts) and words of greeting.

Without fail, each time I would see them I was pulled into some moments of personal reflection. You see, Diego, the father, whom I would guess to be in his 80's, walks a VERY slow pace (and for my part, a frustratingly slow pace). But what causes me to pause and reflect (along with a healthy dose of conviction) is how patiently and willingly Gustavo, his son, adjusts his preferred pace in order to walk WITH his father.

It's a beautiful picture.

Do you see where I'm going?

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But there's a problem. A big one. Maybe you can relate. I happen to like my pace. I prefer my pace. I want my pace.

But when I choose my pace, I choose poorly. I choose to walk alone. And that's a bad call.

Why is it that God's pace is so much slower than my own? Why is that God's timing is so much different than mine? While I don't have it all figured out, what I have learned is that when it comes to God's pace, if you poke around long enough you start bumping into the word "wait". A lot. Check out Psalms. This four-letter word seems to show up with (annoying) regularity. See for yourself.

- ***Wait*** for the Lord's help. Be strong and brave, and ***wait*** for the Lord's help (Psalm 27:14).
- ***Wait*** and trust the Lord (Psalm 37:7).
- ***Wait*** for the Lord's help and follow Him (Psalm 37:34).
- I ***waited*** patiently for the Lord. He turned to me and heard my cry (Psalm 40:1).
- Let all that I am ***wait*** quietly before God (Psalm 62:5).

- I ***wait*** for the Lord, my soul ***waits***, and in His word I put my hope (Psalm 130:5).

The message is pretty clear. God's time economy is well-documented. Not a lot of room for debate.

As you run the game film of your life and leadership, where do you need to adjust your pace? What decisions are you pounding through, pushing through that need more thought, more counsel, more prayer?

Perhaps God has you sitting down in His "waiting room". Will you accept this as His timeline for this chapter in your life?

You see, when you wait on the Lord and walk HIS pace, then you choose well. You choose to walk the trails of life WITH your Father. Enjoying His company. Experiencing His guidance. Benefitting from His wisdom.

And, oh yes, He will have you arriving right on time.

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