**Title:** Comparing Waiting Rooms

This week, I conquered four medical waiting rooms over four consecutive days. The first one was a breeze, with friendly and competent registration nurses. The second waiting room tested my patience with a blaring morning show on the TV, but I managed to find a quiet cubby to wait in. The third waiting room was a perfect fit for me with its peaceful atmosphere, while the fourth one was cramped and provided no space for my belongings. Unfortunately, I decided to cancel my visit to the fifth scheduled medical facility; I just couldn't bear the drive or another waiting room.

During my time in these waiting rooms, I had the opportunity to reflect on the similarities and differences between a doctor's waiting room and what God’s waiting room might be like. God’s waiting room being one where visitation with God occurs and where we wait for the immediate or future next leg of our journey.

**Similarities**

While each person's waiting room experience is unique, there are striking similarities between a doctor’s office waiting room and God’s waiting room. In both instances, there's a sense of uncertainty about the future, leading to feelings of insecurity and anxiety. The long wait can intensify these emotions, as individuals in both settings eagerly listen for a voice – whether it's a nurse calling them back or a spiritual guidance. These waiting rooms serve as buffer zones, allowing individuals to reflect on their personal experiences and ponder existential questions. Both also require a certain amount of patience waiting on something—a diagnosis or an answer to a prayer request. Ultimately, both places provide an opportunity for individuals to seek clarity and purpose during their time of waiting.

**Differences**

In both the doctor's waiting room and God's waiting room, there are similarities and differences. In the doctor's waiting room, patients anticipate tangible discussions or test results, pondering their health conditions. In contrast, in God's waiting room, believers wait for guidance and support, seeking closeness to God. However, believers may also seek these in the secular realm. It is significant to consider what we do in these waiting rooms, as they prompt reflection on both our physical and spiritual well-being.

**Waiting on God**

Waiting is a universal experience in life. In the secular world, we wait on: traffic, grades, new jobs, marriage, and more. In the spiritual world, we wait for healing, salvation of our loved ones, a marriage partner, a revelation of our spiritual gifts, our calling, and more. God’s waiting room is a place and a state of mind where we wait on God for one thing or another. We pray and read the Bible in obedience to God’s command. We seek God with our hearts through praise and worship, supplication, confession of sins, and thanksgiving, Most commonly though, when we think of waiting on God, there is a specific petition or desire we ask Him to show or resolve for us.

**What to do When Waiting of God**

When truly waiting, we must try and ask God for us to be as totally committed to Him as we can. He hears us when we call out to Him. Then, we must position ourselves to truly get into His glorious presence. It is significant what we do while in God’s waiting room. Be sure you have make a commitment to the Lord, by confessing your sins, and placing your faith and trust in Jesus Christ.

**Waiting**

It is time to move in the room where God is (the examination room)! It is where you can discover Him. When you go into an examination room at a doctor’s office, you expect to hear a diagnosis, an explanation, a request for more tests, get medication prescriptions. It is a time to talk to the doctor about your health concerns.

When waiting on God, it is the same. We ask, we listen, we read, we pray, and we lay our life before Him waiting for His will to be made known to us.

**Tips for Waiting on God**

1. If you have not made a commitment to Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior,
2. Find a quiet place where you can be alone with the Lord daily or more than once a day.
3. Examine your heart and ask God to show you any sins that you can confess and clean your heart. Confess them. Ask for help in avoiding those sins in the future.
4. Spend time reading your Bible.
5. Pray.
6. Spend an extended time in meditation, just being quiet before God.
7. Check your motives.
8. Trust that God will provide peace that surpasses all understanding.
9. Recognize that there is a purpose behind your waiting period.
10. Pray for the Holy Spirit to reveal His will.
11. Remember that His timing is not our timing.
12. Seek His strength and encouragement.
13. Acknowledge your feelings. [It is okay to cry and show other emotions]
14. Discern when or if to share your requests and struggles with others.
15. Ask for discernment.
16. Don’t let life come to a halt while waiting.
17. Continue to serve the Lord with a good attitude.
18. Maintain faithfulness and loyalty to God.

**Transformation in the Examination Rooms**

\* I also delved into the true significance that lies in the transformative experience which occurs in the examination room.

While there are both contrasts and similarities between a doctor’s waiting room and God’s waiting room, the true significance lies in the transformative experience in the examination room.

**Compare and Contrast**: Doctor’s Office Waiting Room and God’s Waiting Room

We are not just comparing and contrasting the two waiting rooms. We need to add another aspect—What happens when you enter the inner sanctuary – the examination room where you meet the doctor or the inner presence of God in your life.

1. **Subject by Subject Introduction**: Hook, general background information, and thesis statement.

**Doctor’s Waiting Room.**

**Thesis Statement:** While there are both contrasts and similarities between a doctor’s waiting room and God’s waiting room, the true significance lies in the transformative experience in the examination room.

**Why I am interested in this topic**: Recently, I spent 5 consecutive days in waiting rooms of some sort: Day 1: Waiting for an MRI and x-rays; Day 2: Waiting for my husband while an outpatient procedure was done; Day 3: Waiting for information regarding pain relief; Day 4: Waiting for a physical therapist; and Day 5: Waiting for a weight loss workshop to begin. I encountered plenty of time to think about medical waiting rooms and God’s waiting rooms and the importance of the inner waiting room, which I will call the examination room of each.

**There are various types of waiting rooms**: some with music, cartoons, news, or both. Personal preference for quieter, less chaotic environment.

**“**The Bible provides numerous examples of people who waited on the Lord. Abraham waited for decades to have the son that God promised him. Joseph had to wait in prison. Moses waited for 40 years on the backside of the desert, tending sheep, before leading the children of Israel out of captivity in Egypt. The Israelites then had to wait 40 years to enter the Promised Land. Simeon waited for the birth of the Messiah. Paul waited during his time of preparation in Arabia.” From same Berean Article mentioned below.

**There are different purposes we wait.**

**We wait for a lot of things**. Wait in traffic to get home, wait to get married because we haven’t found the right one yet, we wait to finish school so we can get a good job, we wait in the grocery store line so we have sustanence.

**We wait in the spiritual realm**. For God to answer our prayers, For a desire of ours to be fulfilled, we wait for the Holy Spirit to touch a soul for salvation, for direction in our lives.

**Each wait comes with a different emotions, such as why you are sitting in the doctor’s waiting room, why are you striving to have a particular prayer answered.**

1. Write about one subject and its characteristics. Then when you finish describing that subject, write about the second subject.
2. Body - Doctor’s Waiting Room
3. **Evidence The Decor**

What is the significance of the evidence? kind of chairs, art on the wall, attractiveness,

What conclusion can you draw from it? We decide whether we like the waiting room or not.

How does this piece of evidence relate to other supporting details or evidence you found? We enjoy an attractive waiting room, but we don’t like waiting too long in it.

So, what: – Deepen your thinking about the content of the paper. Show your critical analysis. We are attracted to pleasantries.

1. Evidence – **The Sounds, each person has an individual perspective**

What is the significance of the evidence? Some like the TV blaring. Some like the TV to how health-related tips, others like news articles, and some like Talk shows or soap opera.

What conclusion can you draw from it? Other despise all noise. They want the doctor’s office to be where they can rest from the outside world of media.

How does this piece of evidence relate to other supporting details or evidence you found?

So, what? – Deepen your thinking about the content of the paper. Show your critical analysis.

1. Evidence – **Waiting for the Call**

What is the significance of the evidence? Heads pop up when the nurse calls a name, hopeful it is yours to go back into the examination room.

What conclusion can you draw from it? We like speed.

How does this piece of evidence relate to other supporting details or evidence you found? We are a fast paced society

So, what? – Deepen your thinking about the content of the paper. Show your critical analysis.

1. Write about one subject and its characteristics. Then when you finish describing that subject, write about the second subject.

Body - God’s Waiting Room **Different Emotions depending on why you are sitting in the doctor’s waiting room**

1. Evidence **Desiring an Answer**

What is the significance of the evidence? We want God to answer our requests asap.

What conclusion can you draw from it? We are inpatient much of the time.

How does this piece of evidence relate to other supporting details or evidence you found? God does not work that way. Provide a Bible verse here.

So, what: – Deepen your thinking about the content of the paper. Show your critical analysis.

1. Evidence - **Overburdened**

What is the significance of the evidence? Life comes with trials and burdens.

What conclusion can you draw from it? We cry out to God to heal our emotions.

How does this piece of evidence relate to other supporting details or evidence you found?

So, what? – Deepen your thinking about the content of the paper. Show your critical analysis.

We are all familiar with the waiting rooms in doctor’s offices, but what is God’s waiting room?

1. Evidence – Waiting for God to speak to us.

What is the significance of the evidence? We are inpatient. Similarities lie in that in both instances, we wait for someone to speak, whether it is a call from the nurse or a call from God regarding our issue. We are not too much interested in the décor in God’s waiting room

What conclusion can you draw from it? We don’t know God’s purpose in waiting many times, especially young believers.

How does this piece of evidence relate to other supporting details or evidence you found?

So, what? – Deepen your thinking about the content of the paper. Show your critical analysis.

1. Body – Relationship to Subject 1 and 2 Relationship of Point 1 and Point 1 above. We like our pleasantries, whether it is an office or a person. Each person has different opinions.
2. Relationship of Point 2 and Point 2 above. We all become inpatient at times. We like fastness. We don’t want to wait in a doctor’s office long, just like we don’t like to be in God’s waiting room seeing no results. This can even be extremely frustrating after praying for a long time and not hearing a word from God. But could that be because you aren’t indulging in the right methods to receive results.
3. Relationship of Point 3 and Point 3 above.
4. More points I want to make – If I have more points I want to make, add them to the body

# Moving on…Compare and contrast the move into the examination room where you meet the head honcho, also known as doctor; why do we go to doctors and why do we meet with God. **Intro to this section: Examination Room.** Steve Farrar of Men’s Leadership Ministries says, “Waiting is like eating gravel. Nobody in their right mind wants or likes to do it.” Waiting is difficult. <https://bereanbiblesociety.org/gods-waiting-room/> God’s Waiting Room

by [Pastor Kevin Sadler](https://bereanbiblesociety.org/author/Pastor+Kevin+Sadler) Accessed 10-2-2024

**Similar both waiting and uncertainty**

**Importance of patience and faith in both scenarios**

**Physical and spiritual waiting**

**Both involve immediate vs long term results**

**Tangible outcomes**

**What lessons have we to learn from waiting?**

**Challenges of waiting**

**Different scenarios of waiting, for results, others, directions**

**Duality of news – receiving mexed news )good and bad from doctors and God**

**DIFFErENCeS**

**Same Self-reliance vs divine guidance**

**God’s waiting room is a room awaiting answers and spiritual growth.**

**Everyone’s waiting journey is different.**

**Purpose in the waiting room**

* **Spiritual growth**
* **Not passive, but active**
* **It is significant what we do while waiting.**
* **Check our motives and intentions**
* **Spiritual practices during waiting**
  + **Readint bible regularly**
  + **Spending extended time in meditation with the Lord**
  + **Examining and reflecting on ones heart**

**Similar – acknowledgefeelings of crying, hurt, and even anger toward god**

**To do – remember God’s constant presence and support**

**Understand God’s timing and purpose**

* **Accept that what we ask for may not come in this lifetime**
* **Trusting that God will provide peace that surpasses all understanding**
* **Recognize the purpose behind waiting times periods**

**To do – Depend on the Holy Spirit to reveal God’s will and seeking closeness to God admist challenges and testing.**

**Pray for discernment – knowing when and what to share with others, it may involve. Asking for discernment and courage**

**To do: Active waiting**

* **Continue to serve God with a good attitude**
* **Not letting life come to a halt while waiting**
* **Maintaining faithfulness and loyalty to God**

**Inner Room**

* **Moving from the waiting room to the inner room with God**
* **Seeking God’s will and guidance in solitude and prayer**

**Same Practical steps during waiting**

* **Continue daily routines and maintaining control over thoughts**
* **Pray for pure motives**
* **Pray for results that honor God, you can know them by reading Bible**
* **Emphasize patience**
* **Trust in God’s timing and plan**

**Universal experience of waiting in life**

1. Doctor-Head Honcho
2. Evidence Our frustration, desires to know an outcome, affects our thinking. What is the significance of the evidence?
3. What conclusion can you draw from it? Our purpose for being there is important.

How does this piece of evidence relate to other supporting details or evidence you found? We are human. Find Bible verse.

So, what? – Deepen your thinking about the content of the paper. Show your critical analysis.

1. Evidence We want to know the future? Do we need blood work, do we need more testing. Heaven forbid if in our spiritual life, we need more testing, but sometimes that is why we are in God’s waiting room.

What is the significance of the evidence?

What conclusion can you draw from it?

How does this piece of evidence relate to other supporting details or evidence you found?

So, what? – Deepen your thinking about the content of the paper. Show your critical analysis.

1. Evidence Do you like the doctor or not. Or is it there mannerisms we don’t like

What is the significance of the evidence?

What conclusion can you draw from it? Doctors come from different backgrounds- some are likeable, some aren’t. Some you can understand their dialect; others you can’t.

How does this piece of evidence relate to other supporting details or evidence you found?

So, what? – Deepen your thinking about the content of the paper. Show your critical analysis.

1. God-Head Honcho
2. Evidence

What is the significance of the evidence? God loves us, but we are not immune to heartache and pain.

What conclusion can you draw from it? God doesn’t love us

How does this piece of evidence relate to other supporting details or evidence you found? Maybe God loves us and it why we are experiencing struggles—to grow and mature us, to be better servants for Him.

So, what? – Deepen your thinking about the content of the paper. Show your critical analysis.

1. Evidence God knows the big picture and knows what’s best for us just like doctor’s do.

What is the significance of the evidence? Trust God.

What conclusion can you draw from it? Find Bible verse

How does this piece of evidence relate to other supporting details or evidence you found?

So, what? – Deepen your thinking about the content of the paper. Show your critical analysis.

1. Evidence

What is the significance of the evidence? Be still in your waiting room.

What conclusion can you draw from it? How to be still and peaceful in God’s waiting room.

How does this piece of evidence relate to other supporting details or evidence you found?

So, what? – Deepen your thinking about the content of the paper. Show your critical analysis.

1. Presence of God
2. Evidence Peace and joy comes when we understand how we can experience God’s peace and joy in His presence.

What is the significance of the evidence? We must not only pray and read the Word

What conclusion can you draw from it? Not enough believers are patient enough to wait on God.

How does this piece of evidence relate to other supporting details or evidence you found?

So, what? – Deepen your thinking about the content of the paper. Show your critical analysis.

1. Evidence \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I left my appointments with a big black and blue mark that covered my entire back of hand, found a quiet corner waiting for my husband’s results, More tests ordered, therapy for ankle, maintenance and social interaction. Importance of stepping out of our comfort zone to meet new people.

What is the significance of the evidence?

What conclusion can you draw from it?

How does this piece of evidence relate to other supporting details or evidence you found?

So, what? – Deepen your thinking about the content of the paper. Show your critical analysis.

1. Evidence \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What is the significance of the evidence?

What conclusion can you draw from it?

How does this piece of evidence relate to other supporting details or evidence you found?

So, what? – Deepen your thinking about the content of the paper. Show your critical analysis.

1. Conclusion – Summary of thesis and significance of your paper. So what?

Hook, and thesis statement. Bible verses.

Details: Evidence showing how the points for each subject compare and contract.

1. Evidence \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What is the significance of the evidence?

What conclusion can you draw from it?

How does this piece of evidence relate to other supporting details or evidence you found?

So, what? – Deepen your thinking about the content of the paper. Show your critical analysis.

What conclusion can you draw from it?

Encourage the readers to embrace the waiting period as a time of growth and trust in God’s plan

Reminding them of the peace and purpose that comes from waiting o God.

*“Wait on the Lord: be of good courage, and He shall strengthen thine heart: wait, I say, on the Lord” (Psa. 27:14).*

*Illustrations:*

*1.*

*2.*

*3.*