

New Beginnings Community Church

Date: Jul 12, 2026

Speaker: Pastor Hurmon Hamilton

TITLE: "Let's Take A Second Look"

Scripture used: [Romans 8:29](#); [Psalm 27](#)

OVERVIEW: This year we have been asking one important question: “Who is God forming me to become?” As followers of Jesus, the answer is clear: God is forming us to become more like Jesus—in our character, our love, and the way we relate to others.

Over the past several months, we have explored both personal spiritual practices and interpersonal practices. These two areas work together to shape us into people who reflect Jesus to the world. One of the greatest tools God uses in our formation is waiting. Seasons of delay, uncertainty, and unanswered questions are often the very places where God develops our faith, character, and dependence on Him.

KEY POINTS

1. God Is Forming Us to Become Like Jesus

God's desire is not simply for us to know more about Jesus but to become more like Him. The goal of spiritual formation is that others would see our lives and be reminded of Jesus.

Reflection: If someone spent time with me, would they see something that reminds them of Jesus?

2. Formation Requires Both Inner and Outer Practices

a. The Jesus Way has two inseparable sides. The first is our inner spiritual practices such as prayer, Sabbath, silence and solitude, fasting, Scripture, community, and witnessing. These practices shape our hearts and build our capacity to love and endure difficult seasons faithfully.

b. The second is our interpersonal practices, including kindness, empathy, breaking labels, integrity, forgiveness, and generosity. These practices demonstrate the character of Jesus in our relationships. We cannot consistently live out these relational practices without the spiritual strength that comes from our personal relationship with God.

3. Waiting Is Part of God's Formation Process

Throughout Scripture, we see that God often does some of His deepest work in people during seasons of waiting. Abraham and Sarah waited years for God's promise, Moses spent decades in preparation before leading Israel, the Israelites wandered in the wilderness, and even Jesus waited thirty years before beginning His public ministry.

Psalm 27 reminds us that waiting is not passive or meaningless. Biblical waiting means choosing to keep our eyes fixed on God with hope and expectation, trusting that He is at work even when we cannot yet see the outcome. Often, God is more concerned with who we are becoming during the waiting than with how quickly our circumstances change.

4. Ask the Right Question While You Wait

Instead of asking, "**God, when will this change?**", Scripture invites us to ask, "**God, what are You forming in me during this season?**" Seasons of waiting often become the places where God develops trust, patience, courage, perseverance, and a deeper dependence on Him. The waiting may not be comfortable, but it can become one of God's greatest tools for shaping us into the likeness of Christ.

DISCUSSION

- 1) **HEAR** - If you had to wait a long time for something important, what was it and how did it feel? What is one characteristic of Jesus that you most admire and would like to grow in?
- 2) **UNDERSTAND** - Read [Romans 8:29](#). Paul says that God is conforming us to the image of His Son. What do you think it practically means to become more like Jesus, and where do you see God shaping you right now? Read [Psalm 27:13-14](#). David says, "Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart." Why do you think waiting often feels difficult? How can waiting on God actually strengthen our faith and character?
- 3) **DO** - This week, identify one area of your life where you are waiting on God (a relationship, a decision, healing, provision, or a dream). Spend time each day praying this prayer: "Lord, while I wait, help me become the person You want me to be. Show me what You are forming in me during this season and give me strength and courage to trust You."