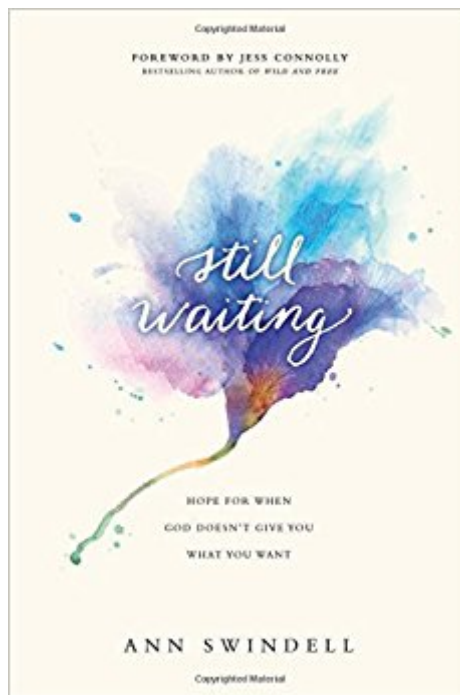




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# Still Waiting: Hope For When God Doesn't Give You What You Want



## Synopsis

What if God wants you to wait? Most of us know what it's like to wait for God to change our circumstances. But, whether we're waiting for physical healing, emotional breakthrough, or better relationships, waiting is something we usually try to avoid. Why? Because waiting is painful and hard. The truth is, it's also inevitable. In *Still Waiting*, Ann Swindell explores the depths of why God wants us to wait by chronicling her own compelling story of waiting for healing from an incurable condition. She offers a vibrant retelling of the biblical account of the Bleeding Woman that parallels her story—and yours, too. Let Ann help you see the promise that is hidden in the ache of waiting and the hope of what God can and will do as you wait on him.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

So few of us know how to wait well. Ann has lived a long wait and found God in it. We need the vulnerability--laced with the wisdom God has imparted during her years of waiting--that Ann Swindell offers on these pages. As only a skilled storyteller can do, she invites us to find our own stories within hers and within the narrative of Scripture that is written for us, the waiting ones. (Sara Hagerty, Author of *Every Bitter Thing Is Sweet*) In *Still Waiting*, both Ann's faith and her struggles are creatively woven together with a biblical story in a way that gives each of us hope for our respective challenges. This is a great reminder of God's faithfulness in spite of our circumstances. (Mike Baker, Senior pastor of East view Christian Church and author of *Jesus Speaks*) Ann has taken us through a tender, personal journey that we can all relate to. We

understand the ache of shame, and we have our own stories of waiting for relief. With biblical truth and the gentle wisdom of a good friend, Ann tells both the Bleeding Woman's story and her own, and leads us to our present hope and fullness in Christ as we wait. (Ruth Chou Simons, Founder of [gracelaced.com](http://gracelaced.com), artist, and author)

In *Still Waiting*, Ann gives us insight into what to do while we are waiting. Not only what to do, but how to stay attached to the bigger God-story in the midst of our struggles. Ann has not only given us insight and truth but has lived it out in her own life. May this book stir you to love Jesus more and believe that he is able to meet with you, even in the waiting. (Jimmy Seibert, Senior pastor of Antioch Community Church and president of Antioch Ministries International)

Ann Swindell tells her story of waiting with winsome honesty. Readers who have fought secret battles will recognize her exhausting effort to avoid shame. Anyone who has prayed the same prayer for years will resonate with her struggle to be content in all circumstances while at the same time holding on to the hope of healing. *Still Waiting* helps the reader not only experience Swindell's story but lift our gaze from her life and our own to the healing love of Christ. (Betsy Childs Howard, Editor for the Gospel Coalition)

The remarkable biblical story of the Bleeding Woman whom Jesus healed is the backdrop for this treasure of a book. Weaving in the intimate details of her own ongoing journey to healing with honesty and insight, Ann Swindell creatively, compassionately, and gently takes us by the hand and leads us to Jesus with astonishing wisdom that can only come from personal experience. Her skillfully written words spoke deeply into my often impatient, questioning heart in seasons of waiting, pointing to life-changing truth and providing encouragement and hope. We come to see each element of the waiting as a gift with an eternal purpose, drawing us closer to the one who sovereignly knows our need. (Terri Kraus, President of Redbud Writers Guild and author of the Project Restoration series)

*Still Waiting* offers wisdom and hope in an area I have long struggled to overcome: the ability to wait well. Ann lovingly guides us through Scripture and comes alongside us with her own story as we go on a journey to learn what it means to wait in a way that isn't lazy but provides an open space in our hearts and schedules for God to meet us in the midst of the unknown. And that is always, always, worth the wait. (Crystal Stine, Freelance writer, speaker, and host of the Write 31 Days challenge)

Grab a cup of coffee and meet your new best friend. That's how you'll feel after reading this expertly crafted book, which is about far more than waiting. It is about how to live—how to take what life is offering at any moment and be whole and at peace. Swindell intimately weaves together painful and touching stories from her own life with Scripture and reflections, and creates a very real space of hope. (Shayne Moore, Author and founder of Redbud Writers Guild)

Life constantly (and painfully) reminds us how hard waiting truly is. In fact, waiting may well be one of

the most challenging spiritual tasks that's set before us. Ann Swindell gently invites us to learn from someone intimately familiar with waiting: the hemorrhaging woman described in Mark 5. As Ann explores, the short glimpse Scripture gives us of this woman's life and faith is rich fodder for aiding us in our own weakness and waiting, encouraging us to keep reaching out to Jesus in expectant hope. (Kelli B. Trujillo, Editor of CT Women) We all have to deal with some degree of waiting in our lives. Through a beautiful retelling of the story of the Bleeding Woman—as well as honest glimpses into her own story—Ann points us back to Jesus in every stage of the waiting process. Still Waiting reminds readers that the waiting period can provide fertile soil for our roots to run deep, knowing that our hope lies not in our circumstances but rather in the Lord. (Dianne Jago, Founder of Deeply Rooted magazine)

Ann Swindell is an author and speaker who writes regularly for CT Women, RELEVANT, Deeply Rooted, and Darling Magazine. She has also written for The Gospel Coalition and (in)courage and writes about the intersection of daily life and God's love on her website, [annswindell.com](http://annswindell.com). Ann holds an MA in Writing and an MFA in Creative Nonfiction Writing and is passionate about helping other writers tell their stories powerfully. She teaches faith-based, online writing courses at [writingwithgrace.com](http://writingwithgrace.com). Ann makes her home in the Midwest with her husband and daughter.

This book (written by a college classmate of mine) touched me deeply. In it, Ann weaves her own story with that of the woman in the gospels who had suffered with incurable bleeding for many years and touched Jesus' hem in the hope of being healed. I had never thought much about that unnamed woman's story, but as I read, I really resonated with her experience as well as with Ann's. If you find yourself in a season of waiting.... waiting to be married, dealing with infertility, longing for relief from an anxiety disorder or a physical condition, waiting to find a true friend, etc., this book is for you. You will be encouraged as you wait for God to answer your prayers and wonder if He ever will. I loved Ann's authentic vulnerability in this book. She "gets it" in a way that only people who have struggled through a season of waiting really can. I also loved Ann's writing style and found the book to be a very engaging read.

I would highly recommend this read for any season of life! As someone who is currently in the midst of waiting for God to show me where it is He was next, I was so encouraged to hear of Ann's vulnerability to share her struggles and waiting for healing in her life. I was reminded that others

may have struggles that seem far greater than my own, but we can still learn from each of them to encourage one another on in our walk with the Lord. I'm so thankful for this book and how Ann reminds us to pursue Christ in all! It's about coming before the Lord and believing that He knows and sees all our weaknesses, but sees us complete in Him! He is the true Life-Giver, Healer, Restorer! Even if I may never get what I want on this earth, I can come to God's word and believe that He truly is enough to satisfy and in Him I have everything I need for this life and for eternity forever with Him!

You truly have a gift and more importantly an anointing. You make our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ so real and so transparent. I too have been waiting on God for over 25 years to fulfill a heart's desire. Your book is confirmation that the things that I am learning are part of God's will for my life. Again, a job well done and thank you for sharing your journey.

Still Waiting is a beautifully written and deeply encouraging book. I highly recommend it for anyone who is or has struggled with waiting on God's timing (hello... probably all of us! Am I right?) . As a person who has wrestled with the question of why God allows us suffer yet still teaches us to find our Joy in Him, I found this book to be such a blessing to my wandering heart. Ann is so kind to allow her readers a glimpse into her personal struggles , and I love the way she weaves her story with the story of the bleeding woman. This book is refreshing and honest. It encouraged me but it also challenged me to find joy , especially when God seemingly has not given me what I've wanted. I love the book so much and I would highly recommend it to YOU. I have already purchased and gifted 3 copies .... and I can't wait to give more! Read this book. You won't regret it :)

This book was a breath of fresh air that I desperately needed. This last year has been so hard physically and emotionally and Ann's story and words have given me so much hope again. Her heart and story is raw and beautiful and her love for the Lord and her wisdom are genuine. I HIGHLY recommend this book for anybody, not just those who are struggling in the present.

Still Waiting is like no other book I've read! I love how Ann describes that God cares and mourns with us in our individual struggles, not one being bigger or smaller than another. Ultimately our struggles in life are purposed to make us more aware of who God is. Ann is a beautiful writer and challenged me to seek more of Jesus and less of how I can overcome my struggles. God invites us into the trial with Him to purify us and make us more like Him. Thank you for sharing your story,

Ann! I will definitely go back and read this book yearly to be reminded of His pursuit after us and how I should continually pursue Him!

One of the best, most honest books written about what hope deferred actually means. A must-read for anyone who thinks their struggles or life circumstance disqualifies them from the full life God promises.

So very encouraged by Ann's story of waiting, which she so beautifully weaves in with the story of the Bleeding Woman. Her mixture of creative writing and her own story was creative and very engaging. I feel like I need to read it again to soak deeper in the truths it uncovers! The more women I talk to, the more I realize that so many of us are in seasons of waiting...which is why I got an extra copy and started loaning it out! It has been an encouragement to my community as well.

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