

# pause

## Pause 2 :: Soul Provider :: Andy Stanley

### INTRODUCTION

It is tempting to feel that God is in no hurry to take care of your needs—like the direction your marriage is headed, the fact that you are still single, or the speed at which your career is advancing. Jesus too was tempted to take things in His own hands and His response reveals a lot about what is really at stake when we are tempted to act independently of God.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Has there been something that you waited for a long time? How did it feel to have to wait?
2. Read Matthew 4:1-4. What was behind the devil's request? Why would it have been a sin for Jesus to turn the rocks into bread?
3. Read Deuteronomy 8:1-3. What did God intend to teach the Israelites when He provided manna for them in the wilderness?
4. Why is it difficult to wait on God to provide, instead of taking things into your own hands?
5. When in your life have you met a legitimate need in an improper way? What were the results?
6. Have you ever had a need that you were tempted to take into your own hands, but instead you chose to wait on God? How did God provide?
7. In what area of your life do you face the most temptation to meet a legitimate need in an irresponsible way?
8. Read Deuteronomy 8:10-18. Why is it more tempting to act independently of God when times are good? How can you continue to remind yourself of your dependence on God?

## THINK ABOUT IT

Jesus met his temptation by quoting Deuteronomy 6:3. Choose a verse you can memorize this week that is specific to your temptation (You can use the concordance in the back of your Bible).

## WHAT WILL YOU DO?

When you are tempted this week to meet a legitimate need in an irresponsible way, pause...and say Deuteronomy 6:3 to yourself, or a verse specific to your temptation.

## CHANGING YOUR MIND

*Jesus answered, "It is written: 'Man does not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" Matthew 4:4*

