

The "Secret Place" or "Waiting on the Lord" by Franz Lippi

Table of Contents

Prologue	2
Main Scriptures	2
Requirements and Benefits	3
What is waiting on the Lord?	4
Personal Prayer Life Alone with the Father in the Secret Place	5
The Question of access	6
<i>The blood of Jesus</i>	6
<i>The righteousness the Christ provided for us and imputed to us</i>	6
The Question of Sin	7
<i>The key role of your conscience</i>	7
Peace of your mind - a great hindrance if it is not there	9
7 Phases in the Secret Place Experience	10
<i>Phase 1 - Focus and deal with your sins and peace of mind</i>	10
<i>Phase 2 - Put your trust on His grace and His provision in the Word and focus on that</i>	11
<i>Phase 3 - Focus upon Him</i>	12
<i>Phase 4 - Expect and draw on Him</i>	12
<i>Phase 5 - Let the Word or experience that has come to you increase and expand</i>	14
<i>Phase 6 - Worship in the word or experience you receive</i>	15
<i>Phase 7 - Let the word you receive be confirmed</i>	15
Handling Words you received	16
<i>Recommended Scripture Readings</i>	16
<i>Some practical hints from experience</i>	16

Prologue

A good number of Christians know very little about the process of “Waiting on the Lord” or the “The Secret Place”. Both of those terms and synonymous and refer to personal, intimate quality time with the father himself.

Some Christians stumble along day by day hoping somehow to find the will of God. For some others, waiting on the Lord is a way of life, an everyday way of appropriation of God's leading and Strength.

Intimate quality time with the father will increase your spiritual perception and give you an intuitive understanding about the Fathers heart.

Of course there is more to it to make the walk of a Christian with God successful but on the very personal one the Secret place is a very important key skill and attitude. The intimate exposure of your whole being will change even the innermost parts of your heart.

What is most important - Jesus Christ himself as he walked on the earth give us this pattern of life as He regularly withdrew from even his disciples for a night or a day to spend time with His Father alone.

When He returned from a time in the secret place sometimes outbreaks of power to heal or other miracles happened (e.g., Mark 3:13-19; Mark 6:45-52).

If He Himself needed this “special” time with His father - how much more do we need it!

Again: This is not intended to be a theological study - its a more of a HowTo out of 30+ years experience. I did teach this in many church in various nations (25++) and the lives of thousand of people who implemented this in their lives in practice were transformed.

I pray this will help you into entering this fabulous place.

Main Scriptures

Matth 6:6

⁶ *But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.*

Isa 40:31

³¹ *But those who wait on the Lord
Shall renew their strength;
They shall mount up with wings like eagles,
They shall run and not be weary,
They shall walk and not faint.*

Psa 91:1-2

¹ *He who dwells in the secret place of the Most High
Shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.*
² *I will say of the Lord, "He is my refuge and my fortress;
My God, in Him I will trust."*

Requirements and Benefits

Requirements:

Allocating time, a desire to walk in the will of God in a more precise way and hunger to know the heart of the Father will be the main ingredients.

You do need the motivation like a miner that digs for gold, a hunger to seek God who will reward you. (Heb 11:6; Luke 11:7-9)

Luk 11: 7-9

⁷ *"Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. ⁸ For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.*

Benefits:

For yourself - your spiritual perception will increase and you will know the will and plan of God for your personal life and even your place in the body of Christ more precisely. There will be cleansing process involved that will result in a life of more manifested purity and holiness - giving much more confidence in prayer and faith.

Deeper revelation of God and the Scripture given by the Holy Spirit will come to you.

For the Church you are involved in - you will be able to bring life into the service and prayer meetings, you will become a contributor instead of being just a consumer.

Eph 4:16

*¹⁶ from whom the whole body, joined and knit together **by what every joint supplies**, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love.*

What is waiting on the Lord?

Like in a regular father-son relationship there are roughly different types of time that they spend with each other: "regular" or "daily business" time and "quality" time. In the daily business time e.g. the son would ask the father "what do you think about this and that?" or "could you please provide funds for this and that" - in quality time they would go out for sailing, hunting, fishing (or whatever...) with no agenda other than to enjoy time together and getting to know each others hearts in a deeper way. Secret place time for me is spending quality time with my Heavenly Father.

Likewise there are two kinds of prayers: Prayers of petition in various forms and prayers of listening (waiting on the Lord).

Waiting on the Lord focuses on prayers of listening.

But: Any type of prayer should be more than just giving God our "counsel" and wishes. Prayer should involve a submissive bowing before God to hear what He is saying into what we are presenting.

Waiting on the Lord has several functions

1. It is a procedure or better a "Lifestyle habit" to that lets you come into spiritual perception and it will increase more and more as waiting on the Lord becomes an integral part of your lifestyle.
2. It is the actual mechanics of real, deep spiritual perception. Waiting on the Lord is one of the primary channels that God uses to reveal His plans and purposes.

3. Don't be led into a wrong interpretation by the word "waiting". The biblical "Waiting" on the Lord is more of a focused aggressive expectancy that literally "draws" from the Lord what He is speaking. God is speaking many times, but not many people are listening and tuning in to what He is saying.

4. Waiting on the Lord brings you into a oneness with the Lord and with His divine strength and wisdom (Isa 40:25-31 e.g. by waiting upon Him, ministries receive the wisdom and strength to minister to the needs of the flock)

5. There are some gifts that the Father wants to hand over personally as to see the joy in your heart and in your face.

Personal Prayer Life Alone with the Father in the Secret Place

This was the true well in Jesus Christ's spiritual life and outflow of life, authority and power. As you draw near to the Father and you meet the Father and the Father meets you he will show Himself and the good works He has prepared for you to walk in and will give them into your hand and empower you for those works. Out of this Jesus healed the sick and exercised authority towards Satan and over demons, even large numbers of them. (Mark 5:9; Luke 8:30; Matt 4:1-11)

Foundations & Hindrances to enter the Secret Place

Here we will go thru some of the hindrances that I faced by experimenting and finding a pathway to enter the Secret place.

There are 7 phases I practice when I go thru the Secret place experience.

Phase 1 deals with Scriptural foundation, your sins and the peace of your mind. This is the phase before you go thru the door into the secret place and you shut the door behind you.

The Question of access

If you ask me what are the main pillars that are key to your access into the secret place which by the way for is is similar to the “Holiest Place” in the OT I would out of the top of my head give you 3 answers:

The blood of Jesus

Only the blood of Jesus cleansed you and is cleansing you from all sin.

1 John 1:7 But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.)

Heb 10:19-21 ¹⁹ Therefore, brethren, having boldness to enter the Holiest by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by a new and living way which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh, ²¹ and having a High Priest over the house of God, ²² let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.

Faith

Rom 5:1 Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ² through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

The righteousness the Christ provided for us and imputed to us

You are never standing before God or in the secret place in your own righteousness but only in and on the righteousness the Christ attained for you. Your own righteousness will be never enough...

Rom 3:21-26

²¹ But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, ²² even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe. For there is no difference; ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, ²⁶ to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

Rom 4:5-8

⁵ *But to him who does not work but believes on Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is accounted for righteousness, ⁶ just as David also describes the blessedness of the man to whom God imputes righteousness apart from works:*

⁷ *“Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven,
And whose sins are covered;*

⁸ *Blessed is the man to whom the Lord shall not impute sin.”*

1 Cor 1:30-31

³⁰ *But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God—and righteousness and sanctification and redemption— ³¹ that, as it is written, “He who glories, let him glory in the Lord.”*

Remember this very clearly: Access into the secret place or the “Holiest place” or “the place of intimacy with Healy Father” is NOT so much based on what you do or did or anything you contributed but only on what **He** (Christ) did and provided for you!

The Question of Sin

The key role of your conscience

As you were born again thru the Holy Spirit your conscience also came to life on a higher level. Sin is automatically registered in a conscience that is living and it does impact the clarity and clearness you are meant to have in your relationship to God. The concept of sin is wider than just obeying the 10 Commandments it has the concept of “missing the mark”.

Note the Word definition (**266.** □□□□□□ **hamartía**; gen. hamartías, fem. noun from hamartán□ (264), to sin. Sin, missing the true end and scope of our lives, which is God. An offense in relation to God with emphasis on guilt.

(I) Aberration from the truth, error (John 8:46 where it stands as the opposite of al□theia [225], truth. See also John 16:8, 9).

(II) Aberration from a prescribed law or rule of duty, whether in general or of particular sins.)

Sin does have an effect on your confidence to fellowship with God and you need the help of the Holy Spirit to make you aware of where you disobeyed His guidance and did what grieved the Holy Spirit. The HS will point out those things

to you as you invite Him to do so. He will be gentle and bring to you only what you can handle at a given time. You have to express your willingness to God to come to light and exposure of sin.

Ps 19:8-9,12-14

⁸ *The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart;
The commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes;*
⁹ *The fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever;
The judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.*
¹² *Who can understand his errors?
Cleanse me from secret faults.*
¹³ *Keep back Your servant also from presumptuous sins;
Let them not have dominion over me.
Then I shall be blameless,
And I shall be innocent of great transgression.*
¹⁴ *Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
Be acceptable in Your sight,
O Lord, my strength and my Redeemer.*

1 John 3:20-21

²⁰ *For if our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and knows all things.*
²¹ *Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence toward God.*

As the Holy Spirit brings things to your attention take full responsibility for your actions and disobedience (confess is the greek word **homologéō** which means basically “saying the same thing”, so you have to say the same thing of what God says about this sin. As you confess and trust His Word He will cleanse you from all unrighteousness.

*1 John 1:5-10 - this Scripture portion is titled many times “**Fellowship with Him and One Another**”*

⁵ *This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all. ⁶ If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. ⁷ But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.*

⁸ *If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us*

from all unrighteousness. ¹⁰ If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.

Deal severely with your unforgiveness

Unforgiveness is a real killer for the effectiveness of prayer and also has a great negative impact on your soul and relationships and it hinders your access to the secret place. In the NT you will find several Scripture contexts that link prayer and forgiveness closely.

Matt 6:14

¹⁴ "For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. ¹⁵ But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses."

Note the context of Matth 6:5-14. The Lord puts together the secret place, the Lord's prayer (as a key pattern) and that we are to forgive. Sometimes it is difficult to forgive but with the grace of the Lord Jesus and the help of the Holy Spirit we can. Don't let the bitter root of unforgiveness grow in the garden of your spirit and your soul!

Matt 5:23-24

²³ Therefore if you bring your gift to the altar, and there remember that your brother has something against you,²⁴ leave your gift there before the altar, and go your way. First be reconciled to your brother, and then come and offer your gift."

Peace of your mind - a great hindrance if it is not there

In the times we live in our peace of mind is a more contested place than ever. Various pressures, sorrows, an overflow of information and unresolved problems in various arenas trouble our minds and rob us of our peace in our minds.

Yet I discovered thru experiments with the secret place and spiritual perception and awareness that peace in your mind is essential. Also it is a provision and a promise from the Lord to us, we do need to take possession of it.

The best way to illustrate this is the picture of a lake in the mountains. On a clear sunny day with no wind the surface is completely still and you can even see the sky in it like a mirror. If you touch the surface of a lake in this condition with your hand or a stone throw it will immediately register and you will see ripples.

On the other hand if a strong wind blows the surface of this lake will be disturbed with waves etc. If you touch the surface of a lake in this disturbed condition with your hand or a stone throw you will not see much of a difference.

So, if you do the same thing to the same lake in those different conditions it will register very differently. If your mind is like that still lake I described first you will sense and receive much more when you are in the secret place.

To reach that you go through different kinds of prayer before entering the secret place so that everything that is bothering you has found its place at the foot of the Cross. Here is the recipe:

Phil 4:6-7

⁶ Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; ⁷ and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

This is the way I learned to apply this verse: I speak to mind like Jesus to the waves on the lake: "Be still". When I do this my mind comes back with the first troubled situation (so, my mind is not obeying...). I let this situation register in my mind and then I begin to call on the Holy Spirit and God's will and hand to enter this situation. As soon as I know by faith that the Holy Spirit is entering this situation I begin to have peace in my mind. Our minds are usually troubled when we can't see God and/or God's presence in a situation. Repeat this process until you feel peace in your mind. You will enjoy it. But don't leave now, you are at the threshold to the secret place - you are about to close the door behind you (!!) and entering the secret place room where the father already waits for you!

7 Phases in the Secret Place Experience

Phase 1 - Focus and deal with your sins and peace of mind

This phase has been described in the passages above.

Have an inner focus with a repentant, broken spirit.

Psalm 51:17

¹⁷ *The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit,
A broken and a contrite heart—
These, O God, You will not despise.*

- Ask the Help of God the Holy Spirit to tell you what has offended Him today...YOU take responsibility for what you have done and apply (1 John 1:7-9)
- Make right every iniquity
- Ask the Lord to forgive you and cleanse you
- Bring the peace of mind to your mind by applying Phil 4:6-7 until your mind is like a still mountain lake where heaven can mirror itself in it (picture)

Phase 2 - Put your trust on His grace and His provision in the Word and focus on that

- Forget your iniquities (it is not worth looking at in the human heart anyway – it is wicked)

Jer17:9

⁹ *“The heart is deceitful above all things,
And desperately wicked;
Who can know it?*

- focus on the great blessings and provisions of the Lord
- appreciate what God has done for us and by faith take hold of his great blessings and provisions
- by meditating on the Lord’s provision your focus will be changed from the personal inadequacy to a sense of divine sufficiency (your inadequacy does not handicap God)

Exo 4:10-12

¹⁰ Then Moses said to the Lord, "O my Lord, I am not eloquent, neither before nor since You have spoken to Your servant; but I am slow of speech and slow of tongue."

¹¹ So the Lord said to him, "Who has made man's mouth? Or who makes the mute, the deaf, the seeing, or the blind? Have not I, the Lord? ¹² Now therefore, go, and I will be with your mouth and teach you what you shall say."

Phase 3 - Focus upon Him

- Remember: The Lord Jesus opened the door that you can have an open, direct relationship with heavenly Father. He made you a son, even a beloved son.
- As you focus on Him, don't talk too much, listen ten times more than you speak.

Phase 4 - Expect and draw on Him

Expect Him to touch you somehow like the picture of the still mountain lake.

Draw and keep drawing on God, His Presence and the word of God. The Father is already in the room - He says so in Matth 6:6.

Matt 6:6 6 But you, when you pray, go into your room, and when you have shut your door, pray to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly.

Its just a matter for you of sensing His presence and not for Him to come from afar. He is already with you.

Let me explain why I choose to use the word "draw" or "Draw on His Presence" or "Draw on the Presence of the Holy Spirit" or "Draw on the Presence of the Father": The word "draw" implies some active, very expectant, focus on our part. As you ask the question "where is it in the bible?" I can point out at least two ways (there are many more) that I choose to explain it - combining both explanations will give you the clarity I got:

Firstly - "Expect and draw on Him" is like fixing your inner eyes intently on Him, expecting that something comes toward you from Him. This process is illustrated very well in Acts 3:4-5

Acts 3:4 4 And fixing his eyes on him, with John, Peter said, "Look at us." 5 So he gave them his attention, expecting to receive something from them.

The greek word behind the phrase "fixing his eyes" is *atenizo*. It means to "to fix one's eyes on some object continually and intensely". This is what I mean by saying "Expect and draw from him". Its an intense inner focus that shows your desire, faith and longing to Him. Our Heavenly father is delighted when we earnestly seek Him and long to spend time with Him. In Acts 7:55-56 the same greek word *atenizo* is translated as "gazed" - Stephen gazed intently into heaven and saw heavens opened.

Acts 7:55-56 55 But he, being full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God, 56 and said, "Look! I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!"

Secondly - Jesus said to his disciples in

Luke 24:49 Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high."

Let's focus on the word "tarry" here - the greek word behind tarry is "*kathizo*" which has the idea of sitting down and is quite often used in the NT in the context of sitting down in a place of authority and power. A good verse to illustrate this is

Ephesians 2:6: and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus.

Here the greek word for sit is *synkathizo* (syn means together). He wants us to sit together with Him and in Him in heavenly places. For me this part is the invitation into the secret place "Come and sit with me", expecting the the one who gives this great invitation wants to communicate somehow or something with me.

So please combine the invitation to take seat with Him with an intense fixing your inner eye on Him and you have a feel what I am trying to describe with the expression "Expect and draw from him".

One mistake that many people are making is that in their mind and expectations they are limiting for themselves how God can communicate to them e.g. to that "still small voice", referring to the one encounter that Elijah had with God. This was not to teach that this is the way the Lord speaks, it was showing Elijahs discernment where the Lord was in it and where the Lord was not in it. Study the different ways how God met people in the Scriptures, you will be surprise on how many ways God reveals Himself. Sometimes He speaks like thunder, one time the Lord spoke to me in way that I felt every cell in my body resonating and echoing, sometimes its the still small voice. So what I am saying - God speaks differently every time, just look into the Bible about the different encounters biblical people had with God and expect something like that happen to you. Don't limit what you can receive but limiting your expectations. But there is much more in encountering God than just hearing words, he will involve all of your five spiritual senses (hearing, seeing, smelling, tasting and touching) plus some more.

You will overwhelmed with what can happen as you touch God and God touches you. Don't tell God on how He should touch you. Don't limit your expectation to a "still small voice". As you have 5 natural senses to experience your environment you also have 5 spiritual senses (the ability to see, hear, smell, taste and touch). God may just come and touch you - its wonderful. He sometimes speaks like a whisper, sometimes like a thunder. Sometimes you see an open vision or the cloud of His presence comes to you....

Study the different ways how God met people in the Scriptures, you will be surprise on how many ways God reveals Himself

Phase 5 - Let the Word or experience that has come to you increase and expand

- When you get the sense that God touches you somehow, be still and say in your heart "more please"
- Let the experience grow, dont talk
- If God speaks a Word to thats wonderful - any word that God speaks is more than a divine powerful thing. It is God himself (John 1:1), its like a seed that comes into your heart

- God imparts of Himself when he speaks
- Let the experience you receive increase til it levels out. As long as it increases say “more please”. When it stops to increase the next phase comes...

Phase 6 - Worship in the word or experience you receive

- you are very close to God when he gives you a word - He has revealed Himself you!
- The true Word will come with force as you wait before God
- the direction you receive in that word is but one percent of waiting on the Lord; the other 99 percent involves giving worship, praise, and adoration back to God.
- Don't talk about the word until confirmed

Phase 7 - Let the word you receive be confirmed

- Every spiritual revelation that you receive needs to be confirmed by the Word of God. Sometimes it takes some research to find it but it always will expand your revelation, deepen it and balance it. Many times the Lord handed me the beginning of a rope or a track in the Secret place. When I began to search the Scriptures
- Sometimes you need several sessions of waiting on the lord, before the Lord confirms a word or you get a fuller understanding of that word.
- Also, if you get a word go to two or three elders for confirmation
- You are learning to know what is God saying to you, you must know the leading of the spirit. If God really speaks to you He will give you the necessary confirmations. Don't move without confirmations. Gods guidance system is like a GPS - the unit needs to “see” several satellites for a correct location fix.
- Don't become proud if you get some great things in the secret place

- Even if the Word is confirmed - move slowly (don't make hasty decisions). Sleep on it - often you get a clean answer in the next morning

Handling Words you received

Recommended Scripture Readings

These Scriptures will inspire you when you are ready to wait on the Lord. It help you to bring about that everything within you turns to Him.

Psalm 91

Psalm 25:5,12

Psalm 27 (esp. verses 8,11,13-14).

Psalm 62 (esp. verses 1-8)

Psalm 123

Some practical hints from experience

- You do need to set apart time for the secret place. You need to treat it like a business appointment and put it into you calendar.
- Time: It doesnt matter which time of the day or night you pick. Pick a time where you are alert and fit. If you are a morning person plan the secret place time in the morning, if you are an evening person plan it accordingly.
- Place: Personally for it works best if I am walking alone in the forest or thru nature. A quiet place is also good. You have to be alone, avoid distractions.
- The devil hates the secret place - he will do a lot to distract or discourage you from practicing it.

Summary

I pray you will benefit from these notes and the recordings.

Be like a miner that searches for a treasure.

I bless you to experience the joys of the secret place.

Franz Lippi, 2010

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Be blessed!

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