

The Beat

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PreTeen Teacher
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How long would you wait for something you want? A week? A year? How about 10 years?

Earlier this month, scientists finally got something they've hoped for since 1997. The Cassini spacecraft, launched that year, beamed back breathtaking pictures of Saturn from high above and below the planet's rings. The never-before-seen views, available at <http://www.nasa.gov/cassini>, totally amazed scientists.

"Finally, here are the views that we've waited years for," said Dr. Carolyn Porco, a team leader in Boulder, Colorado. "Sailing high above Saturn and seeing the rings spread out beneath us is . . . like exploring an alien world. It is so utterly breathtaking, it almost gives you vertigo."

By late June, the view will be gone. Cassini's orbit will be lowered back into circling in the planet's rings.

THINK ABOUT IT

- Why do you think it took a decade for the Cassini to send the spectacular views back to Earth?
- Do you think 10 years is a long time? Why would someone work on a project that would take that long?



Lord of the Rings

We may want things right now, but God's timing is always right. Write a couple of sentences describing the longest time you've ever waited for a prayer to be answered. Compare your experience with your classmates' and see how long answers took and how prayers were answered.



Are you content to wait for God's answers when you pray?