



IT'S WORTH THE WAIT

WEEK
THREE
MARCH 2021

SMALL GROUP

PRETEEN

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Can't Hardly Wait
Esau's Impatience
Genesis 25:24-34

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

What could you miss out on by not waiting?

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

If you don't wait, it could cost you.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

Wait for the Lord.
Be strong and don't lose hope. Wait for the Lord.
Psalm 27:14, NIV

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Patience—Waiting until later for what you want now

BASIC TRUTH

I need to make the wise choice.

PRELUDE: Setting the tone for the experience

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today. In the **Prelude** folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

SMALL GROUP

15
MIN

SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

Just for Fun
Opening Activity

LARGE GROUP

35
MIN

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways **WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God**

Welcome/Opener
Worship ("Live Your Love" from *Can't Stop Won't Stop*, "(I Want to Say) Thank You" from *This Love*, and "Close" from *This Way*)
Bible Story
Prayer
Bottom Line

SMALL GROUP

25
MIN

GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

Application Activity: Take a Snapshot
Bible Story Review: Bible Story Review and Discussion Questions
Memory Verse Activity: Verses to Take with You
Prayer Activity: Make it Personal with Prayer

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

Parent Cue Card (print or email)
GodTime devotional for kids
Studio252.tv
Parent Cue App

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO PLAY

an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and/or working as a group



Before kids arrive, set aside a few moments to pray for your time together with your kids today. Pray that they would see how patience may cost them in the short term but have huge benefits long term. Ask God to give you strength model patience with your kids today.

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WHAT YOU NEED: Offering container

WHAT YOU DO:

- Play a game in which kids take turns adding foods to a list then repeat all of the previous items and amounts.
- Begin by asking the first kid to say, "I'm so hungry I could eat . . ." then have them say the number and a food that starts with the letter A.
 - For example, "One apple."
- Challenge the next kid to repeat what the previous kid said then add the next number and any food that begins with the next letter in the alphabet.
 - For example, "I'm so hungry I could eat one apple and two beans."
- Continue all the way to the letter Z and the number 26.
- Add an extra challenge by asking kids to start with "Z" and continue going backwards through the alphabet naming foods with as many syllables as possible.

Optional: Watch this video of kids who are given the choice of eating candy now or waiting to find out what's in a big Christmas box. <https://bit.ly/36iTQTU>

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2. OPENING ACTIVITY

WHAT YOU NEED: Paper, pens, envelopes

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each kid two sheets of paper, a pen, and two envelopes.
- Without saying what it is, ask the kids to write on one sheet of paper something they really wish they could have someday—something so amazing that it'd be hard to wait to get it.
 - For example, it might be hard to wait for a million dollars or free pizzas for the rest of your life.
- On the other sheet of paper, ask kids to write down something really lame that they would not ever want to receive as a gift, such as three pairs of dirty socks, free broccoli for life, or a book about knitting.
- Remind kids to work silently and keep their papers hidden.
- When they're finished, instruct them to fold each sheet of paper into thirds like a business letter and place each one in an unmarked envelope.
- Gather in a circle.
- Shuffle the envelopes and place them in the middle of the group.
- Choose the oldest kid to go first.
 - He or she should choose an envelope, open it, and read aloud what's written on the paper.
- When finished, invite the next oldest kid to do the same thing.
 - The second kid can then choose to keep his "gift" or take the first kid's if it's something they'd like more.
- Continue until all the kids have had a chance to draw an envelope or take one from someone else.
- At the end, give the kid who was first at the start of the game the chance to take an envelope from anyone in the group.

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WHAT YOU SAY:

"If only these were REAL gifts, right? Well, some of them, at least. Some of you would walk out of here with something you have only dreamed of ever having. Others would go home disappointed because you lost something you wish you still had. I guess it's okay that this was only a game of imaginary gifts. **[Transition] However, in today's story, a man made a choice to give up something that would later cost him big time.**"

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO IMAGINE

an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates concrete application through role-play and reenactment



1. TAKE A SNAPSHOT

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Cookie/baking sheet, measuring spoon

WHAT YOU DO:

- Sit in a circle.
- Place the measuring spoon on the cookie sheet then set it in the middle of the circle.
- Explain that kids will take turns spinning the measuring spoon.
 - When it stops spinning, whoever is seated across from the spoon end will be asked to give an answer to one of the questions below.
 - Some of the answers you're looking for might be: losing out on privileges because impatience leads to bad behavior, or being given extra privileges because you have proven yourself to be able to keep their cool.
 - What might be a downside or consequence of not waiting?
 - What might be an upside or benefit of being patient?
- Continue taking turns spinning the spoon and choosing one of the questions to answer.
- Expand the examples that kids share to include a personal story about a time when they waited and things turned out well or when they were impatient and it cost them something.
- **[Make It Personal] (Play along with the group, and when the spoon lands on you, tell a personal story about patience. It can be a story about when you missed out on something because you couldn't wait or a story about when you were patient and your patience improved your situation and/or attitude.)**

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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body



2. BIBLE STORY EXTENSION

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bible, "Spoon Drop Story" Activity Page, dried beans, small prize

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each of the kids a metal spoon.
- Explain that you'll read a version of Genesis 25:24-34 that contains mistakes.
 - As soon as they hear one of the mistakes, they should drop their spoon.
 - The goal is to be the one whose spoon is first to hit the floor.
 - The kid whose spoon drops first gets one bean for identifying the mistake and another bean for correcting it.
 - If they don't know what the correction should be, pass to the kid you think dropped their spoon soon after the first.
- Read the "Spoon Drop Story" from the Activity Page.
- After each spoon drop, let kids pick up their spoons then continue the story.
- Award a small prize to the kid with the most beans at the end of the story.
- Discuss the story with the kids, using some of the questions below.
 - What are some things kids your age are willing to give up or compromise in order to get what they want instead of waiting?
 - What are some reasons God might want us to wait for something instead of giving us everything when we think we should have it?
 - In what ways can you relate to Esau? How about Jacob?
 - How does patience—waiting until later for what you want now—show trust in God?
- Challenge kids to consider the cost of forcing our will to get what we want. Remind them that God's timing is always best and that by following Him we allow Him to lead us through His plan for our lives.

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3. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

Ask:

- Why do you think waiting is SO hard for everybody, adults included?
- What are some situations you really want to do better at when it comes to waiting with a good attitude?
- What could you miss out on by not waiting in the situations you just named?
- We will all face BIG, LONG WAITS as well as SMALL, SHORT WAITS. Both require patience. Name some situations kids your age feel are huge and hard to wait for.
 - What are some that are smaller but seem just as hard?
 - What would you tell someone who wants to wait wisely in both the big and small situations?

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO EXPLORE

an activity that extends learning through hands-on experimentation and discovery



4. VERSE TO TAKE WITH YOU

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bibles, thread, metal spoons

WHAT YOU DO:

- Provide Bibles or let kids use a Bible app to look up and read Psalms 27:14.
- Ask:
 - According to Psalm 27:14, what are we supposed to do instead of losing our cool?
 - What does it mean to “wait for the Lord”?
 - What is one real-life situation you could apply this verse to this week?
- Remind kids that God speaks to us through His Word. He has something to say to each of them in Psalm 27:14.
- Lead kids in the following demonstration and then connect it with the way God wants what kids have learned today to keep “ringing in their ears” as they go through their week.
- Give each kid a length of thread and a spoon.
- Lead them in the following steps:
 - Tie one spoon into the middle of the string.
 - Wrap each end of the string around each index finger so the string and spoon hang in a V shape in front of them.
 - Take turns tapping the hanging spoon of another kid or swinging the spoon to tap it on a chair, table, or door (metal on metal is best).
 - Repeat but this time ask kids to press to their ears their index fingers on which the string is tied (not IN their ears).
 - Kids may need to lean forward slightly to make sure the spoon hangs away from their body.
 - As kids try out the experiment, remind them to be quiet so everybody has a chance to hear the vibrations.
- Remind kids to listen for God’s voice this week reminding them to stop and wait on Him when they feel frustrated, mad, or impatient. He will give them the strength they need to wait.

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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space
for personal processing
and application



5. MAKE IT PERSONAL WITH PRAYER [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Pens, paper plates with dividers

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each kid a pen and plate
- Ask them to sign their name on the back.
- Ask them to write in the separate sections of their plate the words SCHOOL, HOME, and any other places they go each week.
- Tell them to put an X in the section(s) of their plate where they need God's help the most to be patient. They can also add a short prayer request for specific situations they find most frustrating or challenging in those places.
- Sit in a circle and have them pass the plates (name side up) several times to the left.
- Lead the kids to pray for the person whose name is on the plate.
- Instruct them to flip the plate over to see where that person struggles the most to be patient and pray accordingly.
- Encourage them include any prayer requests written down as well.
- Repeat a couple times or as time allows then close in prayer.

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BASIC TRUTH

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WHAT YOU SAY:

"Dear God, we need Your help. Waiting isn't always easy, but we know the benefits of waiting on You are much better than the consequences of losing our cool. Let us learn a lesson from Esau's foolish and impatient choice. When we think we can't wait, help us stop and remember what it might cost us if we don't listen and follow You. In Jesus' name, amen."

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO GET READY FOR THIS WEEK

SOCIAL: PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION (15 MINUTES)

Welcome kids and spend time engaging in conversation and catching up. Get ready to experience today's story.

(Choose one or both of these activities.)

1. JUST FOR FUN

Made to Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and/or working as a group

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Offering container

2. OPENING ACTIVITY

Made to Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and/or working as a group

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Sheets of paper; two for each kid
- Business-size envelopes; two for each kid
- Pens

GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT (25 MINUTES)

Create a safe place to connect and learn how the Bible story applies to real life experiences, through interactive activities and discussion questions.

(Choose as many of these activities as you like.)

1. TAKE A SNAPSHOT

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

Made to Imagine: an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates concrete application through role-play and reenactment

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Cookie/baking sheet
- Measuring spoon

2. BIBLE STORY EXTENSION

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

Made to Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Bibles
- Metal spoon; one for each kid
- Print the "Spoon Drop Story" Activity Page; one copy for each group
- Bag of dried beans
- Small prizes such as candy

3. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

Made to Connect: an activity that invites kids to share and collaborate with others while growing their understanding

WHAT YOU NEED:

- No supplies needed

4. VERSE TO TAKE WITH YOU

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

Made to Explore: an activity that extends learning through hands-on experimentation and discovery

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Bibles
- 36-inch piece of thread or light string; one for each kid
- Metal spoon; one for each kid
- For a video demonstration of this activity, go to: <https://bit.ly/32vbJh5>

5. MAKE IT PERSONAL WITH PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

Made to Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal processing and application

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Pens
- Paper plates with dividers; one for each kid

HOME: PROMPTING ACTION BEYOND THE EXPERIENCE

- Print on cardstock or email this week's GodTime devotionals and Parent Cue cards.
- Tell parents about our additional family resources: **Studio252.tv** and the **Parent Cue app**.