

ROAD TRIP



Some things are worth the wait

456 SMALL GROUP

WEEK FOUR

BIBLE STORY: Watch for Livestock - Exodus 32:1-35 NIV

Key Question: What can you think about when it's hard to wait?

MEMORY VERSE: "Wait for the Lord. Be strong and don't lose hope. Wait for the Lord!" - Psalm 27:14, NIV

LIFE APP: Patience - Waiting until later for what you want now

BASIC TRUTH: I can trust God no matter what.

This week's key question is "[What can you think about when it's hard to wait?](#)" When we're waiting, we often think about what we don't have, what we're waiting for, how long it's taking . . . anything besides what we should be considering—that we can trust God no matter what. Even in their waiting, we hope that kids can understand how they can think about what's true.

PATIENCE



*Waiting until later for
what you want now*

IMAGINE

(Activity for Group Creativity)

WHAT YOU NEED: Activity Pages; Pens; Bibles

- Give each student a Bible, a copy of the “What’s Wrong with this Picture?” Activity Page, and a pen.
- Tell them to find and circle seven things that are out of place in the picture.
- Encourage dialogue about things they remember from the story. When everyone is finished, refer to the “Answer Key” to make sure all the areas are circled.
- Ask students to take one last look at the things they circled then turn their papers over and place them face down in front of them.
- Direct everyone to find Psalm 78:10-17 in her Bible. If necessary, remind students that the book of Psalms is in the middle of the Bible.
- Let those who like to read aloud take turns reading Psalm 78:10-17, one verse at a time.
- Pause after each verse and ask the group to think back on the things they circled on the activity page.
 - See if they can find a connection between the verse that was just read and one of the images they circled.
 - Answers can vary as students draw their own connections.
 - Refer to the “Answer Key” for clarity, as some connections are more abstract than others.
- Close by praising the students for being able to “look back” and remember the images they circled.
- Ask:
 - If Israel had looked back and remembered all of the miracles, wonders, power, and provision God had demonstrated in the past, what are some things they would have been encouraged by?
 - How might looking back at what they knew to be true of God impacted the situation with the Golden Calf and Israel’s ability to wait with trust in God?
 - Besides all the evidences mentioned in Psalm 78, what are some other things you know to be true about God?
 - How can looking back and remembering what’s true help you wait with patience when you’re tempted to lose it?

WHAT CAN YOU THINK ABOUT
WHEN IT’S HARD
TO WAIT?

Wait for the Lord; be strong and
take heart and wait for the Lord!

Psalm 27:14 NIV

PATIENCE



*Waiting until later for
what you want now*

DISCUSSION

(Activity for Group Growth)

WHAT YOU NEED: N/A

- Can you think of a time when you did something you weren't supposed to because you were waiting for something and you got impatient?
- Name four things you believe, without a doubt, to be true about God. If you can, include a Bible verse or Bible story to back up the truth. (Encourage students to look back on today's lesson if they can't think of other verses or stories.)
- In what way do those things help when you're in a situation that's stressing you out? Share a personal example if you can.
- Israel messed up big time when they lost trust in God and decided to quit waiting. When we mess up, what can we do to make things right or better after we lose our patience?

WHAT CAN YOU THINK ABOUT
WHEN IT'S HARD
TO WAIT?

Wait for the Lord; be strong and
take heart and wait for the Lord!

Psalm 27:14 NIV



REFLECT

(Activity for Personal Growth)

WHAT YOU NEED: Bible

- Use this prayer time as an opportunity to challenge students the to create a habit of “praying Scripture.”
- Read all or some of the following verses out loud one at a time:
 - Psalm 62:1-2
 - Psalm 62:5-8
 - Psalm 62:11-12
- Pause after each verse to let students identify a truth, promise, or command and ask them to “pray the verse” in silent or spoken prayer back to God. Their prayers might include . . .
 - Words of praise
 - Statements of a truth they believe
 - Request for help to obey a command or trust a promise
 - Confession of unbelief or disobedience

WHAT YOU SAY: “Dear God, in just one short Psalm we discovered great and awesome truths about You: You are our rock, refuge, and hope; we can trust in You and talk to You about anything at any time. All power belongs to You.

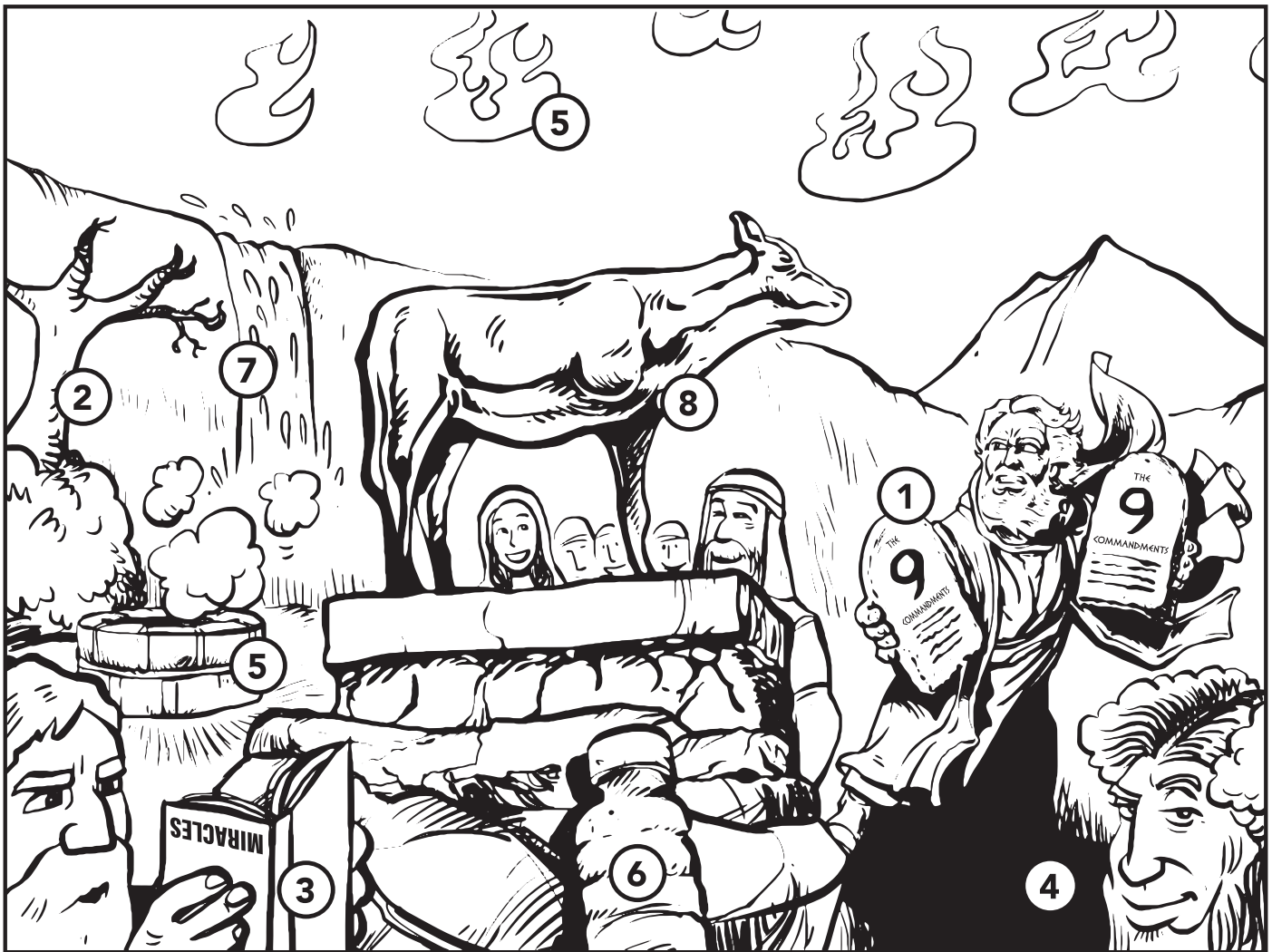
How grateful we are for the way You bless those who believe Your truths and follow You. Help us to look back and remember these things this we week when we are tempted to lose heart or lose our temper. In Jesus’name we pray,
Amen.”





What to Do:
Print one copy for each student.

What's Wrong with this Picture?
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<p>① "They did not keep God's covenant and refused to live by his law." <i>Psalm 78:10, NIV</i></p>	<p><i>Image: The "9" Commandments</i></p>
<p>② "They forgot what he had done, the wonders he had shown them." <i>Psalm 78:11, NIV</i></p>	<p><i>Image: upside-down tree</i></p>
<p>③ "He did miracles in the sight of their ancestors in the land of Egypt, in the region of Zoan." <i>Psalm 78:12, NIV</i></p>	<p><i>Image: man holding a book upside-down titled "Miracles"</i></p>
<p>④ "He divided the sea and led them through; he made the water stand up like a wall." <i>Psalm 78:13, NIV</i></p>	<p><i>Image: hair on a man's head parted to look like the parting of the Red Sea</i></p>
<p>⑤ "He guided them with the cloud by day and with light from the fire all night." <i>Psalm 78:14, NIV</i></p>	<p><i>Image: clouds for fire; fire for clouds</i></p>
<p>⑥ "He split the rocks in the wilderness and gave them water as abundant as the seas;" <i>Psalm 78:15, NIV</i></p>	<p><i>Image: rock shaped like a water bottle</i></p>
<p>⑦ "he brought streams out of a rocky crag and made water flow down like rivers." <i>Psalm 78:16, NIV</i></p>	<p><i>Image: upside down waterfall</i></p>
<p>⑧ "But they continued to sin against him, rebelling in the wilderness against the Most High." <i>Psalm 78:17, NIV</i></p>	<p><i>Image: 3-legged golden calf</i></p>

What to Do:
Make one copy for each Small Group.