



GETTING READY

1. Opener/Closer

What You Need:

- Host
- Two suitcases (or small duffle bags)
- Two sets of clothes (laundry)
- Two laundry baskets
- Two blindfolds

Music and Sound Effects (SFX):

- Upbeat music to use as kids enter and exit the room
- Upbeat music to play during the game

Large Group Visuals (downloadable from the website):

- Road Trip Slide
- Patience Slide
- Bottom Line Slide

What You Do:

- Divide the “laundry” equally between the two suitcases.

2. Bible Story

What You Need:

- Storyteller
- Worship Leader (to bring out the sport coat and handheld microphone)
- Three suitcases
- Prizes for the suitcases:
 - Banana
 - Bag of gummy bears
 - Party supplies for a small group (hats, blowers, snack, balloons, etc.)
- Bible
- Sport coat (like a game show host; shiny and over-the-top, if possible)
- Microphone (fake or real)

Music and Sound Effects (SFX):

- Game show music

Large Group Visuals (downloadable from the website):

- Bottom Line Slide

What You Do:

- Pack each suitcase with its prize.
- Set all three suitcases on stage in no particular order.

3. Worship

What You Need:

- Alive
- Never Gonna Stop Singing

Souped Up

Bible Story: Souped Up (Esau's Impatience) • *Genesis 25:24-34*

Bottom Line: When you think you can't wait, think twice.

Memory Verse: "Wait for the LORD. Be strong and don't lose hope. Wait for the LORD!" *Psalms 27:14, NIV*

Life App: Patience—Waiting until later for what you want now

Basic Truth: I need to make the wise choice.

Story: Communicating God's Truth in Engaging Ways (Large Group, 35 minutes)

Engage kids' hearts through a dynamic and interactive Bible story, worship, and prayer experience in a Large Group setting.

SFX: *Play high-energy music as kids enter.*

CG: *Road Trip Slide*

HOST: "What's going on, everybody? You are in for some fun AND excitement today. We've got singing, we've got a cool story, and we've got NOT ONE, BUT TWO games planned! High-five your neighbor and say, 'It's already a good day!'"

HOST and KIDS: "It's already a good day!"

HOST: "It IS! And it's just going to get better. We're learning about patience this month. What does patience mean?"

CG: *Patience Slide*

HOST and KIDS: "Patience is waiting until later for what you want now."

HOST: "Again!"

HOST and KIDS: "Patience is waiting until later for what you want now."

HOST: "It can be tough to choose patience. That's why it's good for us to hear and read stories about people who DO and DO NOT show patience. We can see what happens when people are patient aaaaaand when they're not so patient."

SFX: *Upbeat game music*

(Hold your hand to your ear.) "Guess we don't have to show patience when it comes to our game time! That music means it's time to play."

"Raise your hand if you've ever been on a trip, vacation, or even spent the night with a friend or relative. *(Pause for response.)* Well, when you get back from a trip, there's something that has to happen:

laundry time. Laundry takes a HUGE amount of patience. So let's make it a lot more FUN, shall we?
Let's play 'Laundry Launch'!

"Let me get two kids up here, and each of you can bring your Small Group Leader.

Bring two kids and their SGLs up on stage. Give a suitcase to each SGL. Walk the SGLs to one side of the stage.

"Here's how we'll play. Each Leader has a suitcase. (To SGLs) You can go ahead and open them up. Inside the suitcase is a bunch of dirty laundry. Gross, right?

Give a laundry basket to each kid contestant. Walk them to the other side of the stage.

"Then, way over here on the other side of the stage, we'll have our two friends with laundry baskets. Their Leaders will have to launch the laundry from the suitcase into their laundry baskets. Only . . .

Whip out blindfolds.

". . . they'll have to do it blindfolded!

Give the blindfolds to the SGLs so they can tie them on themselves.

"Kids, you'll stay right where you are. You can lean with your basket one way or the other, but your feet have to stay still. If you move your feet at all, you have to take out three pieces of laundry. The team that gets the most laundry into the basket wins 'Laundry Launch'!

"Are you ready? Let's do this. On your marks, get set, LAUNCH!

Cheer for each team as they try to launch the laundry from one side of the stage to the other. When they've both run out of laundry, call the game.

"Okay, let's see who has the most laundry in their basket. Let's count!

Count each piece of laundry. If there's a tie, they're both winners. If not . . .

"[Winners' names], you are some talented laundry launchers! You probably don't need much patience at all to unload your suitcases after a long road trip. Great work! Let's give it up for all of our contestants as they go back to their seats!

Dismiss contestants to their seats.

"Speaking of patience, let's move to the next great part of our time together. Stand up! It's time to sing!"

Worship Leaders enter as Host exits.

Worship

WORSHIP LEADER: “Hey, everyone! As we get started this morning, check this out. Psalm 28:7 says: *The LORD gives me strength. He is like a shield that keeps me safe. My heart trusts in him, and he helps me. My heart jumps for joy. With my song I praise him (NirV).* Let’s use our voices to sing this song together and give praise to our God. Sing it with me.

SFX: “Alive”

SFX: “Never Gonna Stop Singing”

Storyteller enters as Worship Leaders exit.

SETTING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: “What’s up, friends? Guess what? We’ve got ANOTHER fun game to play today! But before we get to our game, we have to understand the rules. I want to tell you an awesome, true story from the Bible (*hold up Bible*) so you can understand how to play.

“It’s about two brothers named Jacob and Esau. Raise your hand if you have a brother or if you are a brother. (*Pause for response.*) I see, I see. One other special thing about Jacob and Esau is that they were twins. Are there any twins here? Or do you have siblings who are twins? Or do you know any twins at school?”

“Well, brothers—especially twins—can be best friends one minute and then argue with each other the next minute. Sometimes that’s just how it works when it comes to family!”

BIRTHRIGHT

STORYTELLER: “One other thing you need to know about is something called a birthright. In biblical times, birthrights were blessings and gifts that belonged to the oldest boy in the family. When his father died, the oldest boy would get special privileges and special rights, and they would ONLY be given to him.

“When it comes to our twins, Esau was born first. Since he was the oldest, Esau was supposed to get the birthright. The only problem with that was that Jacob wanted the birthright for himself.

“The two boys were twins, but they were very different. Here’s what it says in the Bible about them.

Open the Bible to Genesis 25:27-28 and read.

“The boys grew up. Esau became a skillful hunter. He liked the open country. But Jacob was content to stay at home among the tents (NirV).”

ESAU AND JACOB MAKE A DEAL

STORYTELLER: “One day Jacob was cooking some stew. Esau came in from hunting and he was super hungry. Raise your hand if you’re super hungry right now. (*Pause for response.*) I bet you aren’t as hungry as Esau was. Because listen to what he said to his brother, Jacob.

Open the Bible to Genesis 25:30-34 and read.

“Quick! I’m very hungry! Let me have some of that red stew!” . . . Jacob replied, “First sell me the rights that belong to you as the oldest son in the family.” “Look, I’m dying of hunger,” Esau said. “What good are those rights to me?” But Jacob said, “First promise to sell me your rights.” So Esau promised to do it. He sold Jacob all the rights that belonged to him as the oldest son. Then Jacob gave Esau some bread and some lentil stew. Esau ate and drank. Then he got up and left (NIV).

“WOW! Can you believe that? Esau traded his birthright for a cup of soup and some bread. He was too impatient to get his own dinner. He was too impatient to wait. He was so impatient that he traded away his special blessing to his brother.

“What do you think YOU would have done? If you were super hungry, would you have made the same deal Esau did? Would you have traded your birthright for a bowl of soup?”

LET’S MAKE A DEAL

SFX: Game show music

“Let’s play a game to find out!

Worship Leader enters with a handheld microphone (fake or real) and a sport coat. She gives it to Storyteller, who puts on the jacket like a game show host.

“Here’s how we’ll play. I have three suitcases on stage with me. Inside these suitcases are three different prizes. One is a not-so-great prize, one is a medium-cool prize, and one is an AWESOME prize. Only you don’t know what’s in the suitcase before you make the deal!

“I need three people from the audience who are willing to make that deal with me. To play, you must have something with you that you can safely trade with me—something like a quarter, a stick of gum, a cool rock, or whatever else might be in your pockets. Who in the audience has something they’d be willing to trade for what’s in one of these suitcases?”

Call on audience members and ask what they have to trade. Choose three kids to make a deal based on what they have with them. As they come on stage, assign them a suitcase to trade for.

Note: If you can’t find enough kids with a tradeable item, you could always call up a SGL.

“Okay, we have our three contestants. Please come on stage and stand behind the suitcase I assigned you.

“[Contestant’s name], you are trading a [item] for what’s in your suitcase. Are you sure you want to make this deal? *(Allow for response.)* Let’s do it! Whatever is in that suitcase is now yours!

Allow the contestant to open the suitcase.

“Look at what you got! Do you think you got a better deal than Esau did? (*Allow response.*) Great job playing! You can have a seat.

Contestant sits down.

“We still have two more deals to make. [Contestant’s name], you are trading a [item] for what’s in your suitcase. Are you sure you want to make this deal? (*Allow for response.*) Let’s do it! Whatever is in that suitcase is now yours!

Allow the contestant to open the suitcase.

“Look at what you got! Do you think you got a better deal than Esau did? Cool! You can have a seat.

Contestant sits down.

“Now for our last deal. [Contestant’s name], you are trading a [item] for what’s in your suitcase. Based on what the other two contestants got, do you still want to make this deal? (*Allow for response.*) Okay, open it up!

Allow the contestant to open the suitcase.

“Look at what you got! Are you happy with your deal? (*Allow response.*) Awesome! You can have a seat.”

Contestant sits down. Storyteller takes off the sport coat and puts down the handheld mic.

SFX: Cut game show music

WRAPPING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: “You know, all of our contestants today did something that Esau didn’t. Before they opened their suitcase, I asked if they were SURE they wanted to make the deal. They stopped. They paused. They took the time to think twice before they impatiently made their trade.

“That’s what we need to do too. Whenever we’re in a situation where we KNOW we should be patient, but we’re just not sure we can wait, we can stop and think twice. We can pause (*long pause*) . . . and really think about whether or not we’re about to **[Basic Truth] make the wise choice.**

CG: Bottom Line Slide

“Here’s our Bottom Line for today: **[Bottom Line] When you think you can’t wait, think twice.** Let’s say that together.”

STORYTELLER and KIDS: [Bottom Line] “When you think you can’t wait, think twice.”

STORYTELLER: “That was awesome, guys! Let’s pray together.”

Pray

STORYTELLER: “God, when we’re tempted to be impatient, please help us remember Esau. Remind us that being impatient could cause us to make some really NOT-smart decisions. Help us to slow down, to pause, and to think twice. We love You, and we ask these things in Jesus’ name, amen.”

Host enters as Storyteller exits.

Closer

HOST: “You know, Esau made a TERRIBLE deal because he was impatient. He didn’t think twice, and he gave away something VERY important and special for a silly bowl of soup.

“You and I don’t have birthrights, so we won’t be tempted to trade them away because we don’t want to wait. But we DO face situations every day where we might be tempted to be impatient.

“When we want to yell at our sister to hurry up and get in the car because we’re going to be late for school, we can think twice.

“When we want to pass someone in the lunch line, we can think twice.

“When we want to peek at our birthday present that’s hidden in our parents’ closet, we can think twice.

“Being impatient never pays off. Remember that you can think twice. You can be patient, because some things are worth the wait.

“Here’s the one thing we need to remember today.

CG: Bottom Line Slide

[Bottom Line] “When you think you can’t wait, think twice. You never have to think twice about hanging out with your small group, because your small groups are awesome! And it’s time for you to do that right now. Have fun!”

Dismiss children to their small groups.

SFX: Play high-energy music as the kids exit.