**April 22, 2018**

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

**Bottom Line: When you think you can’t wait, think about what’s true**

**Bible Story: Watch for Livestock • Exodus 32:1-35**

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

**9:00-9:10 | 10:30-10:44 - KIDS ARRIVE**

**Team Welcomes Kids *(Providing Time for Fun Interactions)***

**Summary:** In week four of April, we head to Exodus 32:1–35 where we find the Israelites at the foot of Mount Sinai. Instead of obeying God and waiting for Moses to come down off the mountain, the entire nation of Israel grew impatient. They built a golden calf and began to worship it instead of worshiping God. Their lack of patience had some severe consequences.

It’s easier to wait when you remember all the times God has helped you before. You can trust Him, knowing that He’ll help you wait.

**9:10-9:35 | 10:40-11:05 - LARGE GROUP**



**1**. **Gone?**

*Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding*

**What You Need**: *Owl Babies*by Martin Waddell

**What You Do**:

* Read the book to the kids. Be sure to use good expression.
* As you go, ask questions such as:
  + How do you think Sarah, Percy, and Bill felt when they realized that their mommy was gone?
  + What did they think about at the beginning of the story? (She’s gone hunting to bring us food; she’ll be back soon; “I want my mummy!”)
  + Why do you think they thought those things? (To help themselves feel better; Bill wanted his mummy!)
  + What did they think about after it seemed she had been gone a long time? (She got lost; a fox got her.)
  + How do you think they felt then?
  + What was your favorite part of the book? Why?

**What You Say:**

*“In our Bible story today, we’ll hear about some PEOPLE who became worried when someone was gone a long time. Let’s go to Large Group to find out more.”*

***Bible Story - INTRO, Story, OUTRO Videos (whatever works best for your few)***

***Worship SONGS***

**9:35-10:05 | 11:05-11:35 - SMALL GROUP**

**GROUPS**

***(Creating a Safe Place to Connect)***

**2. Think!**

**[Application Activity]**

*Create: an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building & designing*

**What You Need: “**Owl Babies” story; paper; crayons/markers

**What You Do:**

* Briefly review Owl Babies and the fact that Sarah, Percy, and Bill tried to think about good things to help themselves feel better when their mother was gone. Make the connection that just like the three owlets waited for their mother, sometimes we have to wait for things, too.
* Encourage kids to name times they might be tempted to feel worried or scared or sad while they wait for something important, such as waiting for a parent to come home from a trip, waiting for their mom or dad to get a job, waiting for their sister to finish her tutoring appointment, or waiting for a friend to get better.
* Help kids brainstorm true things they can think about when they’re waiting: a worship song, a memory verse, a Bible story, or things that are true about God.
* Give each child a piece of paper and lead them to draw one true thing they can think about while they wait. (Or they can draw themselves waiting and thinking about what’s true.)

**What You Say:**

*“It isn’t always easy to wait, is it?*

***[Make It Personal] (Tell kids about a time when you were tempted to become worried or sad or angry while you waited for something important. Tell kids what you did to help yourself not forget what’s true.)***

*“So when you’re waiting and you start to feel sad or scared or worried or even angry, think about what’s true. Think about how much God loves you and how much He cares for you. So* ***when you think you can’t wait, don’t forget what’s true****: God loves you, and He is always with you!*

**3. Pray & Dismiss**

**[Prayer Activity]**

*Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application*

**What You Need:** Kid’s drawings from the previous activity

**What You Do:**

* Ask kids to hold their drawings from the previous activity and quietly imagine themselves thinking about the thing they drew while waiting for something else to happen.
* Use a couple kids’ pictures as examples, saying something like, “When Desiree thinks she can’t wait, she’s going to think about how much God loves her.” “When Zac thinks he can’t wait, he’s going to remember this month’s memory verse.”
* Close in prayer, using the guide below.

**What You Say:**

*“Dear God, thank You that You are good, You are faithful, and You are powerful. Thank You that You love us more than we can imagine. Help us remember what’s true about You when we wait for important things. Help us never forget that You love us and that we can trust You no matter what. Thank You, God. We love You so much! Amen.”*

***As adults arrive to pick up, guide kids to show parents their “Think!” drawings. Encourage them to tell parents the true thing they will think about when they wait for something important.***