



WEEK
TWO
MARCH 2021

SMALL GROUP
K-3

PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO MOVE

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



Before kids arrive, take a few moments to pray for them. Pray that God would give kids patience not to take matters into their own hands when waiting for something specific. Pray that kids would remember what's true about each situation they're in, and that that would give them the encouragement they need to keep waiting. Ask God to help kids control their thoughts and attitudes during periods of waiting.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Sitting, Waiting, Wishing
Golden Calf
Exodus 32:1-35

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

**When you have to wait,
remember what's true.**

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 can trust God no matter what.

EARLY ARRIVER

WHAT YOU NEED: Hand sanitizer, masking tape

WHAT YOU DO:

- Place a long line of masking tape down the center of your Small Group area.
- *NOTE: Keep the tape line on the floor for the Prayer Activity.*
- Welcome kids to Small Group as they arrive.
- Direct the kids to use one pump of hand sanitizer.
- Line the kids up along the masking tape.
- Tell the kids that you'll make some statements that are true and some that are false.
- Ask the kids to jump to the right of the line if they think something is false and to the left if they think something you say is true.
- The statements follow:
 - Rabbits eat pepperoni pizza. *(False)*
 - Peanuts grow underground. *(True)*
 - There are 2,000 thunderstorms on Earth every minute. *(True)*
 - Shark teeth are weaker than human teeth. *(False)*
 - Reindeer grow beards in the winter. *(True)*
 - Alaska has a giant sand desert. *(True)*
 - Chutes and Ladders® was invented by Abraham Lincoln. *(False)*
 - Pink dolphins live in the Amazon River. *(True)*
 - Jet planes are louder than whale songs. *(False)*





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PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

**CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES**

MADE TO PLAY

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



OPPOSITE DAY

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]
WHAT YOU NEED: "Opposite Day Motions Guide" Activity Page

WHAT YOU DO:

- Go over the Opposite Day Motions as a group.
- Keep the Activity Page out where everyone can see it and reference it during the game.
- Once the kids have the motions down, begin to play.
- Tell kids that it's Opposite Day. When you call out a motion, they have to act out the opposite motion from the "Opposite Day Motions Guide."
- Call out a few motions, coaching kids to do the opposite.
- For older kids, call out the motions in a quick sequence.
 - Watch carefully for anyone who is NOT doing the opposite motions or loses track. They can be "out" until the next round.
- If time allows, let an older kid call out the motions.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"In our Bible story, we heard about people who did the exact opposite of what they should do. Instead of showing patience, they panicked. Instead of worshipping the one true God, they made a statue of gold and worshipped it.

"We sometimes act the opposite of how we should, too. We let impatience get the better of us. Raise your hand if you've ever done the exact opposite of what you should? (*Let kids raise hands, and raise your hand, too.*) I have, too.

[Make It Personal] (Share an age-appropriate time when you let your impatience take over and you did the opposite of what you should have. Explain that many sins and unwise choices happen because we don't have the patience to wait for God or do things His way.)

"In that situation, I wish I had known that **when you think you can't wait, remember what's true.** It is true that God has a plan I can trust; it's true that He will never leave me, even if life is hard. I can count on Him and have patience when I need to wait."

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MADE TO IMAGINE

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



STORY BUCKET

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Story Review Cards" Activity Page, Bibles bucket, beans/beads/rice/moon sand, hand sanitizer

WHAT YOU DO:

- Direct the kids to use one pump of hand sanitizer.
- Mix the "Story Review Cards" in the bucket. Make sure they're hidden.
- Instruct the kids to take turns digging around in the bucket and pulling out a card.
- Once a kid retrieves a card, ask them to explain how the image is a part of today's Bible story.
- If they get stumped, open the Bibles to Exodus 32 and work together to find the image in the story.
- Make sure everyone gets a chance to dig in the bucket.
- If time allows, bury and find the cards a second time.
- Guide kids to work together as a group to put the pictures in the correct story order.

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WHAT YOU SAY:

"Why was Moses angry with the Israelites? *(Pause for responses.)* You're right—Moses was angry because of how impatient the people had been. The people had seen God do so many great things for them. But when they had to wait for Moses, they forgot what God had told them about who He is and how to follow Him. And they chose their own way.

"If only they had remembered what's true about God—that they could trust Him, no matter what! If they had remembered that, the story could have had a much better ending.

"We can make a better choice than the Israelites did when we have to wait. We can choose to trust God and be patient. **When you have to wait, remember what's true.**"





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MADE TO EXPLORE

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



DE-CODED

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "De-Coded" Activity Page, "Code Cards" Activity Page, Bibles, pencils

WHAT YOU DO:

- Spread out the "Code Cards" face up on the floor.
- Make sure the cards are mixed up.
- Pass out a "De-coded" half page and a pencil to each kid.
- Instruct kids to use the different codes on the floor to fill in the blanks on their paper by matching the number below the blank with the letter associated with it on the code.
- For example, 12 = W. Anywhere there's a 12 under a blank, they should write "W" in the blank.
- When each kid is finished, hand them a Bible to check if they cracked the code correctly.

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WHAT YOU SAY:

"Let's look at our codes and read the verse together. Ready? (*Read the verse out loud with the kids.*) Great! Let's do it one more time. (*Read the verse out loud with the kids.*) The verse is clear: God wants us to wait for Him! **When you have to wait, remember what's true.**" [Make it Personal] (*Tell your group about a time you had to wait for the Lord.*)





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PRAY AND DISMISS

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Masking tape line from Early Arriver Activity

WHAT YOU DO:

- Remind the group that you started today with some crazy facts—some were true and some were false.
- Let them stand along the tape line, again, and jump to one side for true and the other for false.
- Say the following statements and let kids jump accordingly.
 - God forgot all about the Israelites while He was talking to Moses on the mountain.
 - The Israelites made the wrong choice in building that golden calf.
 - Moses didn't really care that the Israelites made the calf.
 - There are times in life when it feels like God has forgotten about us or doesn't care about us.
 - God will sometimes leave us or stop caring about us.
 - There are times when we are tempted to let our impatience be the boss of us.
 - There are times when we make unwise choices.
 - There is NEVER a time when God will forget us or leave us.

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WHAT YOU SAY:

"Toward the end of our game, all those things were true. Sometimes, we do make unwise choices and we do let our impatience get the better of us. But it's also true that God will never leave us, that God has a plan for us, and that He will take care of us. Those things are the **MOST** true because they don't change like our feelings change. What is true about God is true forever. So, **when you think you can't wait, remember what's true.** Let's pray.

"Dear God, thank You for loving us and being with us, no matter what. We know that we can have patience and count on You even when we feel frustrated. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

As adults arrive to pick up, ask if any of the adults want to guess which facts from the Early Arriver game are true or false.

