



IT'S WORTH THE WAIT

WEEK  
**FOUR**  
MARCH 2021

LARGE GROUP

**K-6**

## TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

### TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

**I Will Wait**  
Palm Sunday  
Matthew 21:1-11

### TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

What are you waiting  
for right now?

### TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

You can celebrate even  
when you're waiting.

### 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.

### 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

### LARGE GROUP

**35**  
MIN

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- MONTHLY CHALLENGE - PATIENCE
- Each grade share stories every week with your leaders of YOU showing patience
- We will celebrate/show how much PATIENCE we can share this month by grade level
- **\*\*\*PRETEEN TEASER: Superstart Event April 30-May1 - registration opens March 28**

#### WORSHIP:

- THERE'S NOTHING THAT OUR GOD CAN'T DO
- WAY MAKER

### SMALL GROUP

**25**  
MIN



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**K-6**

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

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## BASIC TRUTH

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## LARGE GROUP

ENGAGE KIDS' HEARTS THROUGH A DYNAMIC AND INTERACTIVE BIBLE STORY, WORSHIP, AND PRAYER EXPERIENCE IN A LARGE GROUP SETTING.

**AUDIO: PLAY HIGH-ENERGY MUSIC AS KIDS ENTER.**

**SLIDE: THEME**

**OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME LOOP**

Host enters . . .

**OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): COUNTDOWN (30- OR 60-SECOND VERSION)**

**OPTIONAL VIDEO (MEDIA PACKAGE): THEME**

## WELCOME

Host has lots of energy as he or she welcomes everyone to [name of environment]. Host is relatable and inviting. Host can talk about something that is happening currently, like the crazy weather, March Madness (if it is happening), Easter coming up, movie opening, etc. Host tells them how excited he or she is that they're there and briefly runs through what they can expect. This is especially helpful for first-time guests to make them feel like they know what's happening.

## OPENER

**HOST:** "Good morning, and welcome to the final week of March! You've made it! Give three people around you an air high five!"

Hold up chopsticks.

"Anyone recognize these? (Pause for response.) Nope, not chopsticks. These are Handheld Chip Distributors, fresh out of the box. These handy tools are used for the transportation and distribution of chocolate chips from one location to another. Oh, look! A bowl full of chocolate chips! (Look across the room.) And look! An empty bowl over there that needs chips! It's almost as if someone here at set this up ahead of time! That's right, it's time to play a new game called Chip Distribution Warehouse."

**SLIDE: CHIP DISTRIBUTION WAREHOUSE SLIDE**

"Here's the 4-1-1, kids. This is an exercise in patience, for sure. I need two Small Groups of five to play!"

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

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HOME

25 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

*Choose two groups to participate. Have them come to the front. Set them up next to the full bowl and give each person a set of chopsticks.*

“Small Groups will pit their Handheld Chip Distribution skills against one another by transporting chips from one bowl to another. You can take as many chips as the Chip Distributors can carry, but if you drop just one chip, you have to go back to the start and begin again! Most chips at the end of 60 seconds wins! Everyone understand? Great! Let’s play!”

#### **VIDEO: 60-SECOND COUNTDOWN**

*On your GO, teams begin the race. Cheer teams on during the time. After 60 seconds, count the chips and declare a winner then hand out appropriate prizes.*

“Beautiful Chip Distribution! I may hire some of you in my Chip Distribution Warehouse—we have a chip launcher, a chip catapult, a chip bazooka, it’s pretty sweet. Now, everyone stand up as [Name of Worship Leader] is about to lead us in worship. Let’s go!”

*Host exits as Worship Leaders enter.*

## **WORSHIP**

*Worship Leaders enter as Host exits.*

**WORSHIP LEADER:** “Hey, everyone! Let’s make our praises loud in this place. Our God is amazing. Every day, we can show what a difference His love has made in our lives. Let’s lift our voices and sing His praises right now.

**AUDIO: THERE'S NOTHING THAT OUR GOD CAN'T DO**

**AUDIO: WAY MAKER**

## APPLICATION

**COMMUNICATOR:** "One thing to remember is that God is still working while you're waiting. It's not like He takes a day off. He's still moving, still working, and still listening. I truly believe one of the hardest things to learn for you, for me, for anyone, is to be present in the moment, right here, right now. Too often we're stuck in the past wishing things turned out differently or stuck in the future, hoping things will turn out a certain way."

"The truth is that we don't have control over either of those things, not the past or the future. But what we do have control over is how we are living in the present, in the 'right now.' That's because **[Basic Truth] we can trust God no matter what!**"

"God is working while you wait. Instead of focusing on what you're missing or what you wish could happen, celebrate what God is doing in your life right now!"

### SLIDE: BOTTOM LINE

**"You can celebrate even when you're waiting."**

### SLIDE: THEME BACKGROUND

"The religious leaders had studied and waited their whole lives for a Savior . . . and still, they didn't recognize Jesus when He came. But the rest of the people DID see how special Jesus was. We can celebrate all that God has done in the past, all that He's doing in our lives right now, and all that He WILL do in the future.

"As you head to your Small Groups, think about this question.

### SLIDE: KEY QUESTION

**"What are you waiting for right now?** Other than me to stop talking so you can go to your Small Groups. What is something you're waiting for? Is it good news? Is it an end to the pandemic? For school be over? You'll talk more about that during groups, but let's first pray and thank God for being with us while we wait."

## PRAY

**STORYTELLER:** "Dear God, thank You for this amazing story. The people had been waiting so long for a Savior, and they must have been SO excited to see Jesus! Help us remember that we can celebrate even when we're waiting. Help us trust in You and believe that You always have a good plan for us—even when we can't always see it. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."