

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION  
15 MINUTES

## MADE TO PLAY

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



Before kids arrive, set aside a few moments to pray for your time together with your kids today. Pray that they would see how patience may cost them in the short term but have huge benefits long term. Ask God to give you strength model patience with your kids today.

## TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

**Can't Hardly Wait**  
Esau's Impatience  
Genesis 25:24-34

## TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

What could you miss out on by not waiting?

## TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

If you don't wait,  
it could cost you.

## 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 need to make the wise choice.

## JUST FOR FUN

**WHAT YOU NEED:** No materials needed.

### WHAT YOU DO:

- Play a game in which kids take turns adding foods to a list then repeat all of the previous items and amounts.
- Begin by asking the first kid to say, "I'm so hungry I could eat . . ." then have them say the number and a food that starts with the letter A.
  - For example, "One apple."
- Challenge the next kid to repeat what the previous kid said then add the next number and any food that begins with the next letter in the alphabet.
  - For example, "I'm so hungry I could eat one apple and two beans."
- Continue all the way to the letter Z and the number 26.
- Add an extra challenge by asking kids to start with "Z" and continue going backwards through the alphabet naming foods with as many syllables as possible.

*Optional:* Watch this video of kids who are given the choice of eating candy now or waiting to find out what's in a big Christmas box. <https://bit.ly/36iTQTU>

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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

## MADE TO MOVE

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

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## BIBLE STORY EXTENSION

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Bible, "Spoon Drop Story" Activity Page, dried beans, small prize

### WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each of the kids a metal spoon.
- Explain that you'll read a version of Genesis 25:24-34 that contains mistakes.
  - As soon as they hear one of the mistakes, they should drop their spoon.
  - The goal is to be the one whose spoon is first to hit the floor.
  - The kid whose spoon drops first gets one bean for identifying the mistake and another bean for correcting it.
  - If they don't know what the correction should be, pass to the kid you think dropped their spoon soon after the first.
- Read the "Spoon Drop Story" from the Activity Page.
- After each spoon drop, let kids pick up their spoons then continue the story.
- Award a small prize to the kid with the most beans at the end of the story.
- Discuss the story with the kids, using some of the questions below.
  - What are some things kids your age are willing to give up or compromise in order to get what they want instead of waiting?
  - What are some reasons God might want us to wait for something instead of giving us everything when we think we should have it?
  - In what ways can you relate to Esau? How about Jacob?
  - How does patience—waiting until later for what you want now—show trust in God?
- Challenge kids to consider the cost of forcing our will to get what we want. Remind them that God's timing is always best and that by following Him we allow Him to lead us through His plan for our lives.



IT'S WORTH THE WAIT

WEEK  
**THREE**  
MARCH 2021

SMALL GROUP  
**PRETEEN**

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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

### MADE TO CONNECT

an activity that invites kids to share and collaborate with others while growing their understanding



### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** No supplies needed

**WHAT YOU DO:**

**Ask:**

- Why do you think waiting is SO hard for everybody, adults included?
- What are some situations you really want to do better at when it comes to waiting with a good attitude?
- What could you miss out on by not waiting in the situations you just named?
- We will all face BIG, LONG WAITS as well as SMALL, SHORT WAITS. Both require patience. Name some situations kids your age feel are huge and hard to wait for.
  - What are some that are smaller but seem just as hard?
  - What would you tell someone who wants to wait wisely in both the big and small situations?

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## MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space  
for personal processing  
and application



## MAKE IT PERSONAL WITH PRAYER [PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Pens, paper plates with dividers

### WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each kid a pen and plate
- Ask them to sign their name on the back.
- Ask them to write in the separate sections of their plate the words SCHOOL, HOME, and any other places they go each week.
- Tell them to put an X in the section(s) of their plate where they need God's help the most to be patient. They can also add a short prayer request for specific situations they find most frustrating or challenging in those places.
- Sit in a circle and have them pass the plates (name side up) several times to the left.
- Lead the kids to pray for the person whose name is on the plate.
- Instruct them to flip the plate over to see where that person struggles the most to be patient and pray accordingly.
- Encourage them include any prayer requests written down as well.
- Repeat a couple times or as time allows then close in prayer.

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### WHAT YOU SAY:

"Dear God, we need Your help. Waiting isn't always easy, but we know the benefits of waiting on You are much better than the consequences of losing our cool. Let us learn a lesson from Esau's foolish and impatient choice. When we think we can't wait, help us stop and remember what it might cost us if we don't listen and follow You. In Jesus' name, amen."