



WEEK
ONE
SEPTEMBER 2022

SMALL GROUP
PRETEEN

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

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:

- Think of someone you trust. Why do you trust them?

What do you know about God that helps you to depend on and trust God no matter what?

- What does trusting God look like while we are waiting for *(fill in with examples from the Take a Snapshot Activity)*?
 - For example: What does it look like to trust God when my friend is mad at me and not speaking to me? Or what does it look like to trust God when I am waiting for my broken arm to heal?
- What can we take from Abraham and Sarah's story to encourage us to trust God even when we have to wait?
 - Encourage kids to share stories of people they know who were waiting and trusting God at the same time. What do these stories remind us about God?
 - **[Make it Personal]** *(Share an age-appropriate story of a time you had to trust God while you were waiting. How did you wait well and trust God? Would you do something differently next time you had to wait and trust God?)*

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

Unforgetful You

Abraham and Isaac
Genesis 15:1-6; 18:1-15; 21:1-7

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

When have you had to wait for something big?

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Trust God even when you have to wait.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart. Do not depend on your own understanding."

Proverbs 3:5, NIV

MONTHLY VIRTUE

Trust—Putting your confidence in someone you can depend on

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.



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MADE TO PLAY

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



VERSE TO TAKE WITH YOU

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bibles, dry erase board, dry erase markers, eraser

WHAT YOU DO:

- Gather kids together.
- Give kids a Bible and look up the memory verse, Proverbs 3:5.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

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***Finding verses with 4th-5th graders:** Our verse is from Proverbs. Ask kids to tell you whether that's in the Old Testament or the New Testament. (Old) We know it's toward the middle of the Bible. When they find Proverb, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Tell them to find chapter 3. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Tell them to them find verses 5 in chapter 3.*

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

When have you had to wait for something big?

- Write the verse on a white board.
- Ask for a volunteer to read the verse out loud. After they read it, tell them to erase one word of the verse.
- Ask for another volunteer to recite the verse, filling in the erased word. After they recite the verse, tell them to erase another word.
- Continue until the entire verse has been erased. Challenge kids to recite the verse from memory.
- (Optional) To make this a competition, instruct kids to sit down. Erase a word and the first kid to stand up gets to try to recite the entire verse. If they recite it correctly, award them two points. If they don't recite it correctly, subtract a point from their total. The kid with the most points at the end wins.
- Consider asking:
 - What does the writer of this verse say about trust?
 - In Hebrew, the word for heart doesn't just refer to your emotions, but it also meant your mind and thoughts, too. It's the place where you make sense of the world. So what does it mean then to "trust with all your heart"?
 - What if you are waiting for something that hasn't happened and you begin to wonder if it will happen—what would help you to remember to depend not on your understanding but to trust God?

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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: Poppers

WHAT YOU DO:

- Gather kids in a circle.
- Give each kid a popper.
- Tell kids to press down their popper and wait for it to pop up.
- As soon as it does pop, kids can shout out a reason they can depend on God.
 - For example: God is kind, God is always good, God is always with me.
- This might be a little chaotic if everyone's poppers pop at once, but it will be fun.
- After everyone poppers have popped, ask:
 - Is there something you are waiting for? Allow kids to share if there are things they are waiting for right now.
 - **[Make it Personal] (Consider sharing something you are waiting for. Maybe you are waiting to graduate from school or waiting to hear about a job. Maybe you are waiting for a parent or grandparent to feel better.)**
- Close in prayer.

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WHAT YOU SAY:

"God, You are . . . (fill in examples kids gave why they can trust God) You are trustworthy! Your ways are perfect! Your timing is perfect! We don't understand sometimes why we have to wait, but we know we can trust You no matter what! God, we pray for those in our group who are waiting right now. Help them to wait well and to trust You as they wait. In Jesus' name, Amen."