



WEEK  
**TWO**  
APRIL 2024

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 with others and build on their understanding



### 3. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS [TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW] WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

#### WHAT YOU DO:

##### Ask:

- What are the signs that you're about to lose your patience? Why might it be helpful to know those signs?
- What can you do to be ready the next time you feel yourself getting impatient?
- Why do you think waiting can be hard for us?
- What are some situations you really want to do better at when it comes to waiting and thinking twice before you act?
- Do you think anyone has ever regretted being patient?

### 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

When you think you can't wait, think twice.

### MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"Wait for the Lord. Be strong and don't lose hope. Wait for the Lord."  
Psalm 27:14, NIV

### MONTHLY VIRTUE

Patience—Waiting until later for what you want now

### BASIC TRUTH

I need to make the wise choice.



WEEK  
**TWO**  
APRIL 2024

SMALL GROUP  
**PRETEEN**

PRELUDE      SOCIAL      STORY      WORSHIP      GROUPS      HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

### MADE TO IMAGINE

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



### 4. VERSES TO TAKE WITH YOU [HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Bibles, "Better Think Twice" Activity Page

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Invite kids to look up and read James 1:19 using the Bible

Navigation Tips below.

### TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

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

***Finding verses with 4th-5th graders:** Ask kids to tell you if the book of the Bible they're looking for is in the Old Testament or New Testament. If it's in the Old, instruct kids to flip slowly, starting at the front of the Bible and heading toward the back, until they find the book they're looking for. If it's in the New, instruct kids to start flipping from the back, going forward to find the book they're looking for. Once they find the book, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. First, have them find the chapter they're looking for. Then explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Tell kids to find the verse within the chapter they've already found.*

### TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

What could you miss out on by not waiting?

- Ask:
  - What do you think it means to be *quick to listen*? What about *slow to speak*? How about *slow to anger*?
  - How can James 1:19 help us think twice?
- Lead kids to get into groups of three or four.
- Give each team a Bible to look up James 1:19.
- Give groups some time to help each other memorize James 1:19.
- After a few moments to look up and work on remembering the verse, give each group an even amount of the "Better Think Twice" scenario cards and ask them to work together to come up with the following for each scenario:
  - One "Easy Esau Option"—a quick-fix-response that might feel good at the time but would have negative consequences later.
  - Two "Better Think Twice Options"—responses that follow God's advice in James 1:19 and wait for what's best.
- When finished, bring groups together and let them share what they came up with.
- Challenge kids to choose one of the scenarios they resonate with the most.
- Encourage the kids to avoid the "Easy Esau Options" as they wait for things.
- Remind kids that when we follow Jesus, God sends the Holy Spirit to live inside us. Patience is a gift from God's Spirit that grows in us as we follow Jesus.

### TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

When you think you can't wait, think twice.

### MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

**"Wait for the Lord. Be strong and don't lose hope. Wait for the Lord."**  
Psalm 27:14, NIV

### MONTHLY VIRTUE

Patience—Waiting until later for what you want now

### BASIC TRUTH

I need to make the wise choice.



WEEK  
**TWO**  
APRIL 2024

SMALL GROUP  
**PRETEEN**

PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

**MADE TO REFLECT**

an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application



**5. MAKE IT PERSONAL WITH PRAYER**

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

- Lead kids in a responsive prayer.
- Invite kids to pray their answers out loud (if comfortable) or silently as you pause throughout the prayer.
- Say:
  - God, today I learned that . . .
  - God, please help me remember . . .
  - God, please forgive me for . . .
  - God, please help me think twice before I get impatient with . . .
- Lead a prayer to close out the group.

**TODAY'S BIBLE STORY**

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

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Dear God, we have learned a lot about patience today. Now it's time to put what we've learned into practice. Please help us remember to think twice before we act. Give us the strength to wait for what is best and not settle for something we will regret later. We know that patience is fueled by faith and the power of the Holy Spirit, so help us trust You as we wait. In Your name we pray, Amen."

**TODAY'S KEY QUESTION**

What could you miss out on by not waiting?

**TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE**

When you think you can't wait, think twice.

**MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE**

"Wait for the Lord. Be strong and don't lose hope. Wait for the Lord."  
Psalm 27:14, NIV

**MONTHLY VIRTUE**

Patience—Waiting until later for what you want now

**BASIC TRUTH**

I need to make the wise choice.