



WEEK
THREE
APRIL 2024

SMALL GROUP
PRETEEN

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

I Keep Forgettin
Golden Calf
Exodus 32:1-35

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

What can you think about when it's hard to wait?

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 VIRTUE

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.

Check out our Pinterest page here <https://bit.ly/447HSZi> for a visual on some of the activities.

SMALL GROUP

15
MIN

SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

Just for Fun
Opening Activity

LARGE GROUP

35
MIN

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

Welcome/Opener
Worship
Bible Story (Communicator Script)
Key Question
Prayer

SMALL GROUP

25
MIN

GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

Application Activity: Take a Snapshot
Bible Story Review: Bible Story Extension and Discussion Questions
Memory Verse Activity: Verses to Take with You
Prayer Activity: Make it Personal with Prayer

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

Parent Cue Card (print or email)
Devotionals for Kids
Parent Cue App



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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:

- Name three things you believe to be true about God. If you can, include a Bible verse or Bible story to support it. *(Encourage kids to think back on today's story if they can't think of other verses or stories.)*
- How might those truths help when you're in a situation that's stressful, annoying, or when you must wait longer than you want?
- When we mess up, what can we do to make things right or better after we lose our patience?

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25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application



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

WHAT YOU NEED: Bibles, small paper plates or index cards, pens

WHAT YOU DO:

- Invite kids to look up and read Psalm 62:1-2.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

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***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 can you think about when it's hard to wait?

- Discuss the verse using the prompts below to initiate group conversation.
 - A truth I need to remember when I must wait is . . .
 - I think this verse is helpful because . . .
 - This verse challenges me to . . .
 - I need to remember that God is strong when I . . .
 - I think finding rest in God means . . .
- Challenge kids to come up with additional "It is surely true . . ." statements about what they believe about God that can help them when they need to be reminded to wait with patience.
- Give each kid a paper dessert plate (or index card) and a pen.
- Ask them to write down one thing they feel is important to remember when they are feeling impatient but must keep waiting by starting with, "It is surely true . . ."
- Set plates aside for the Make it Personal with Prayer activity.
- Remind kids to refer to their plates this week to remember what's true.

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

WHAT YOU NEED: Paper plates or index cards from Verses to Take with You activity

WHAT YOU DO:

- Invite kids to review what they wrote on paper plates or index cards during the Verses to Take with You activity.
- If willing, encourage kids to share with the group what they wrote.
- Remind kids that one of the best things to do while waiting is to remember and think about what they know to be true about God.
 - If we take time to focus on what's true and think of the ways God has helped us or those we know, it can turn WAITING into WORSHIP.
- Challenge kids to use what they wrote on their paper plates to form a prayer of thanks to God.
- Point out that when we give thanks, we're recognizing the truth that God is with us and caring for us, even when we're stuck waiting for something to stop, change, move, or get better.
- Allow a few minutes for kids to pray silently but also encourage those who are willing to pray aloud.
- Tell kids to place their plates on the floor when they're done praying.
- When everyone is done, close with a short prayer.

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