



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



WEEK
THREE
APRIL 2024

SMALL GROUP
PRETEEN

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 working as a group



Before kids arrive, pray for each of your kids by name. Be intentional with your prayer, and ask something specific for each of them, based on what you know about them and their families.

1. JUST FOR FUN

WHAT YOU NEED: Offering container

WHAT YOU DO:

- Invite kids to put their offerings in the offering container as they arrive.
- Invite kids to get into pairs.
- Tell partners to fist-bump (tap their fists together) as they say, "Count on it," then immediately hold out between 1 and 5 fingers on that hand.
- The first kid to add up and shout out the combined number of fingers being held up by both partners gets a point.
 - For example: If one kid holds out 2 fingers and the other kid holds out 3 fingers, the first kid to say 5 earns a point.
- After a few rounds, let kids switch partners and play again.
- Tell kids to keep track of the number of games they win.
- Celebrate whoever wins the most games as the overall winner.

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PRETEEN

PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO CONNECT

an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding



2. OPENING ACTIVITY

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

- Invite kids to get into pairs.
- Explain each pair of kids needs to find out two interesting or surprising (but true) facts about one another.
- Each kid should also come up with another fact about themselves that is not true but still believable.
- Bring all the groups together then let kids introduce their partners and share the two true statements and one false statement.
- Challenge the remaining kids to guess which two facts are true.

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

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WHAT YOU SAY:

"It was not always easy to know what's true. I bet you were able to remember what was true about your partner. **[Transition]** In Large Group, we'll meet some people who became impatient and completely abandoned what they once believed to be true. As you might guess, this did not go well for them. Let's go hear the full story."

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

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

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

When you have to wait, remember what's true.

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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



1. TAKE A SNAPSHOT [LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY] WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

- WHAT YOU DO:**
- Direct the group to sit in a circle.
 - Explain that kids will take turns talking about patience

and impatience as long as possible with one breath.

- They can tell a true story, make up a story, give a definition, share a verse related to the topic, tell what they have learned so far this month, and so on.
- The challenge is that kids must take a deep breath then begin talking until they completely run out of breath. ***[Make it Personal] Join the kids in this activity by sharing insights, stories, or challenges you've faced that kids can relate to.***

- If needed, offer a few starters such as the ones below to prompt ideas:
 - When I get upset, I need to take a deep breath and remember that . . .
 - Impatience reminds me of . . .
 - A patient kid . . .
 - I hate it when I have to wait for . . .
 - Something I don't understand about God (or the Bible) . . .
 - One thing I'd tell someone about God is . . .
 - I think patience matters because . . .
 - One thing I know to be true is . . .

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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



2. BIBLE STORY EXTENSION [TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bible, "Burger or Dog" Activity Page, paper plates, index cards, pens; *Optional: prepared hamburger and hot dog buns or toy food*

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WHAT YOU DO:

- Invite kids to share what they remember from today's Bible story.
 - Refer to Exodus 32:1-35 to clarify any questions or reinforce any details of the story they might have missed.
- Give each kid two index cards and a pen.
- Divide kids into two groups.
- Ask kids in one group to write one true statement about something that happened in today's Bible story on one index card and one false or made-up statement about the story on the other.
- Ask kids in the other group to write a true statement about God or the Bible on one of their index cards and one untrue statement on the other.
- Collect the cards.
- Place the "Burger or Dog" cards (or sealed buns/toy food) on the paper plates (one on each plate).
- Ask one kid from each team to sit across from one another with the paper plates between them.
- Explain that you will read a statement from the stack of index cards.
 - If they believe the statement is true, they must try to be first to grab the **hamburger** card, bun, or selected toy food.
 - If they think the statement is not true, they must grab the **hot dog** card, bun, or selected toy food.
 - If they grab one before you finish, they must complete the statement.
 - If they can't complete it correctly, the other kid is given the full statement and the opportunity to decide if it's true or false to earn the winning point.
- Give an extra point whenever a team can correct a false statement and make it true.
- If kids disagree with whether a statement is true or false, allow them to explain their view. Ask leading questions or provide insight as to why particular statements are true or false.
- Continue by having each team send a different kid to the paper plate to compete.
- Refer to additional True or False statements below, if needed.
- After the review, ask:
 - Based on everything God had shown Israel in the past, what should they have known to be true about God?
 - If you could step back in time and join the Israelites as they waited for Moses to return, what might you have said to help them remember what's true?
 - What are some things you know are true about God that can help you wait?

Additional True or False Statements:

- God gives the Holy Spirit to help believers make the wise choice. (True)



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25 MINUTES

(2. BIBLE STORY EXTENSION, CONTINUED)

- The Israelites made the image of a horse. *(False)*
- Patience is waiting until later for what you want now. *(True)*
- Aaron went up Mount Sinai with Moses. *(False)*
- The people gave Aaron gold to use to make an idol. *(True)*
- Instead of God, the people worshiped the image made from their jewelry. *(True)*



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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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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
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.

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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.

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

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an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application



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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PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

GETTING READY

HERE'S EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW TO GET READY FOR THIS WEEK

SOCIAL: PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION (15 MINUTES)

Welcome kids and spend time engaging in conversation and catching up. Get ready to experience today's story.

(Choose one or both of these activities.)

1. JUST FOR FUN

Made to Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and/or working as a group

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Offering container

2. OPENING ACTIVITY

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- No supplies needed

GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT (25 MINUTES)

Create a safe place to connect and learn how the Bible story applies to real life experiences, through interactive activities and discussion questions.

(Choose as many of these activities as you like.)

1. TAKE A SNAPSHOT

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- No supplies needed

2. BIBLE STORY EXTENSION

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

Made to Imagine: an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates biblical application through role-play and reenactment

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Bible
- Paper plates, two for each Small Group
- Index cards, two for each kid
- Pens

- Print and cut apart "Burger or Dog" Activity Page on cardstock, one for each Small Group OR:
 - *Optional: Hamburger and hot dog buns sealed in separate sandwich bags or toy food of any kind that might be served at a cookout in your area*

3. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

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

WHAT YOU NEED:

- No supplies needed

4. VERSES TO TAKE WITH YOU

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

Made to Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal processing and application

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Bibles
- Small paper plate (or index card), one for each kid
- Pens, one for each kid

5. MAKE IT PERSONAL WITH PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

Made to Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal processing and application

WHAT YOU NEED:

- Paper plates or index cards from Verses to Take with You activity

HOME: PROMPTING ACTION BEYOND THE EXPERIENCE

- Print on cardstock or email this week's devotionals and Parent Cue cards.
- Tell parents about our additional family resource: **Parent Cue app.**