



WEEK  
**ONE**  
MARCH 2021

SMALL GROUP  
**2-3**

## TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

### TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

#### Wait for It

Simeon Waits for the Messiah  
Luke 2:25-35

### TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

When you have to wait,  
remember God is with 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 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.

### SMALL GROUP

15  
MIN

#### SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

Early Arriver  
Opening Activity

### LARGE GROUP

35  
MIN

#### STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

Welcome/Opener  
Worship ("Everywhere I Go" from *Every Beat*, and  
"Working On Me" from *This Love*)  
Bible Story  
Bottom Line  
Prayer  
Closer

### SMALL GROUP

25  
MIN

#### GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

Bible Story Review: Wait, Wait, GO!  
Application Activity: The Patience Grid  
Memory Verse Activity: Wait for the Lord  
Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss

### HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

Parent Cue Card (print or email)  
GodTime devotional for kids  
Studio252.tv  
Parent Cue App



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**PRELUDE      SOCIAL      STORY      WORSHIP      GROUPS      HOME**

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION  
15 MINUTES

### MADE TO CONNECT

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



*Before kids arrive, take a few moments to pray for them. Thank God for always being with us, especially when we're in phases of waiting. Ask Him to give your kids patience as they wait for "normal" life to return. (Ask Him to do the same for you, too!) For kids in situations where they're waiting for something big (a job for a parent, the healing of an ill family member), ask God to make His*

*presence known in those kids' hearts. Thank Him for being a God who always keeps His promises!*

### TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

#### Wait for It

Simeon Waits for the Messiah  
Luke 2:25-35

### 1. EARLY ARRIVER

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Offering container, hand sanitizer, (optional) phone

#### WHAT YOU DO:

- Welcome kids by name as they arrive.
- Invite kids to use one pump of hand sanitizer.
- If a kid brought an offering, direct them to the offering container.
- Tell the kids that you will ask a question, and they should think silently about their answer but not share it out loud.
- Ask, "When is it hard to wait?"
- Give each kid a chance to act-out when it's hard to wait.
- Instruct the other kids to guess what the kid is acting out.
- If the kids have a hard time coming up with ideas, pull an image on your phone of people waiting—like waiting for Christmas morning, a very pregnant woman waiting for a new baby, waiting for summer break.

### TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

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### MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

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Psalm 27:14, NIV

### MONTHLY LIFE APP

**Patience—Waiting until later for what you want now**

### BASIC TRUTH

**I can trust God no matter what.**



PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION  
15 MINUTES

**MADE TO CREATE**

an activity that explores ideas through the process of drawing, building, designing, and problem-solving



**2. OPENING ACTIVITY**

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Boxes, wrapping paper, scissors, tape, tissue paper, streamers, stickers, pipe cleaners, foam, construction paper, glue, (optional) additional supplies to make a "cake"

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Make a pile of all the supplies within the reach of the kids.
- Instruct the kids to work together to build a cake.
- Let the kids know that they will compete to see which group can make the best cake.
  - If you have more than one small group in the room, hold a contest between all the cakes.
  - If you have one small group and one cake, "judge" the cake while using your best food critic voice. For example:
    - "Very great shape and colors, but it is a little lopsided."
    - "This is the best design I've seen in years."
    - "It is a very creative cake, but how does it taste?"

**TODAY'S BIBLE STORY**

**Wait for It**

Simeon Waits for the Messiah  
Luke 2:25-35

**TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE**

**When you have to wait, remember God is with you.**

**MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE**

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**MONTHLY LIFE APP**

**Patience—Waiting until later for what you want now**

**BASIC TRUTH**

**I can trust God no matter what.**

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

"Those are great cakes! Maybe you should all go into the baking business. What do you think? I bet it would take a LONG time for some of those cakes to bake! Some of them are huge! We'd wait forever! **[Transition] Let's go to Large Group to hear about someone else who waited a long, long time for something.**"

Lead your group to the Large Group area.



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**2-3**

**PRELUDE      SOCIAL      STORY      WORSHIP      GROUPS      HOME**

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



**\* 1. WAIT, WAIT, GO!**  
[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Bibles

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Look up Luke 2:25-32.
- Invite a few kids to take turns reading the passage out loud, switching readers every couple of sentences.
- Ask:
  - In our Bible story, who was waiting?
  - What was he waiting for?
  - How long did he have to wait?
  - What did he do when the wait was over?
  - How do you think he felt once he could finally stop waiting?
- Instruct the kids to spread out and sit in a circle on the floor.
- Explain that you will play a version of "Duck, Duck, Goose," but it's called "Wait, Wait, Go!"
- Direct all the kids to sit in a circle.
- Choose one kid to be the first tagger.
- Instruct that kid to walk around the circle, tapping each kid on the head and saying "wait" until they tap a kid and say, "Go!"
- The kid who is tagged on "go" runs after the tagger and tries to tag them before they can take their seat.
- Whoever is left standing is the new tagger.
- Play as long as you have time to let as many kids as possible be the tagger.

**TODAY'S BIBLE STORY**

**Wait for It**

Simeon Waits for the Messiah  
Luke 2:25-35

**TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE**

**When you have to wait, remember God is with you.**

**MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE**

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**MONTHLY LIFE APP**

**Patience—Waiting until later for what you want now**

**BASIC TRUTH**

**I can trust God no matter what.**

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

"I don't usually like waiting. Do you? (*Pause for responses.*) Was it hard to wait for your turn? (*Pause for responses.*) It can be really hard to wait, especially for something we really look forward to or when something is hard. No matter what it is you have to wait for, God is always with you. You can trust Him while you wait, just like Simeon did in our Bible story. **When you have to wait, remember God is with you.** Just like Simeon, we can have patience and wait, because we know God is in control and His plan for us is good."



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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 concrete application through role-play and reenactment



## 2. THE PATIENCE GRID [LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Patience Grid" Activity Page, game tokens

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Lay the "Patience Grid" in the middle of the group.
- Give each kid a game token.
- Show the kids that the top row of ten spaces on the "Patience Grid" is the start line.
- Instruct each kid to put their token in a square on the start line.
- Explain that you will read a situation out loud.
- Anyone who thinks it would be hard to wait in that scenario moves their token forward one block toward the finish line.
- As you read each situation, kids should move forward one block if that would be a hard situation for them to wait.
- Example situations (add any that are relevant and applicable for your kids, such as waiting for a local sports team to win a championship or waiting for a particular bus or train):
  - waiting for Christmas morning
  - waiting for your birthday party to start
  - waiting for a movie to come out
  - waiting for a special gift to arrive in the mail
  - waiting for your sister to get out of the bathroom
  - waiting for your dad to get home from work
  - waiting for your grandparents to arrive for a visit
  - waiting for your turn on a video game
  - waiting for your friends to be ready to play
  - waiting for your mom to be done with her work call
  - waiting for your teacher to answer your question
  - waiting for the cookies to cool so you can eat them
  - waiting for your favorite dinner to be ready
  - waiting for your favorite shirt or blanket to get out of the laundry

### TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

#### Wait for It

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### MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

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### MONTHLY LIFE APP

**Patience—Waiting until later for what you want now**

### BASIC TRUTH

**I can trust God no matter what.**

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

"Let's see who won! All right, who is closest to the . . . START line? Because that's our winner! That's right, [kid's name] wins because they are practicing being patient. **[Make it Personal] (Share a situation when you have a hard time waiting.)**

"And in more serious situations, waiting can be hard and scary. **When you have to wait, remember God is with you.** When I remember that God is with me, it helps me wait. I know that I'm not alone, and I always have someone I can talk to!"



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**PRELUDE      SOCIAL      STORY      WORSHIP      GROUPS      HOME**

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

### MADE TO CREATE

an activity that explores ideas through the process of drawing, building, designing, and problem-solving



### 3. WAIT FOR THE LORD [HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** Bibles, dictionary, paper strips, and markers

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Ask everyone to open their Bibles to Psalm 27:14.

### TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

#### Wait for It

Simeon Waits for the Messiah  
Luke 2:25-35

*Finding verses with 2nd and 3rd graders: Guide them to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. (Hold up a Bible opened to the table of contents to show the kids what the page looks like.) When the kids find the table of contents, lead them to find Psalms in the list under "Old Testament." When the kids find Psalms, lead them to look at the page number beside the word. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find Psalms. Help the kids find the page. When they find Psalms, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find chapter 27. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find verse 14 in chapter 27.*

### TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

**When you have to wait, remember God is with you.**

- Read the verse together several times. First, read it out loud and direct the kids to repeat the words after you read them. Then ask the kids to recite it on their own.
- Give a sentence strip and a marker to one kid.
- Invite another kid to look up "wait" in the dictionary.
- Instruct the kid to read the definition of "wait" out loud, while the other kid writes it on a sentence strip.
- Repeat the process with "hope" and two other kids.
- Place the sentence strips where everyone can see them.
- Ask the group, "What is this month's memory verse telling us to do? Why?"
- Prompt the group to work together to make up hand motions to help them memorize the verse.
- If needed, here are some ideas to get started:
  - Wait—point to a pretend watch.
  - For—hold up four fingers.
  - The Lord—point to heaven.

### 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 can trust God no matter what.**

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

"This verse tells us something very important—not to lose hope. It would have been easy for Simeon to lose hope since he waited for so long! But you know what? When we trust God with our future, like Simeon did, we can wait. When we trust that God always keeps His promises, and we KNOW that He is with us, it makes the wait more bearable. **When you have to wait, remember God is with you.**"



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**PRELUDE      SOCIAL      STORY      WORSHIP      GROUPS      HOME**

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT  
25 MINUTES

**MADE TO REFLECT**

an activity that creates space for personal processing and application



**4. PRAY AND DISMISS**  
[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

**WHAT YOU NEED:** "Prayer" Activity Page

**WHAT YOU DO:**

- Ask the kids to sit in a circle.
- Encourage the kids to think back to how they tried to remember things when they were "little."
  - Remind them of how hard they worked to remember things like the ABCs, shapes, colors, and how to count to 20.
  - Point out that now that they know all of those things, they can remember them easily because they practiced them over and over.
  - Remembering that God is with us when we wait is something that we can practice—just like we practiced until we learned our ABCs.
- Pick a kid to go first and hand them the "Prayer" Activity Page.
- Ask them to read the statement out loud, filling in the blank with their own example. "Dear God, when I have to wait for \_\_\_\_\_, help me remember that You are with me."
- Direct the kid to pass it to the next kid. Continue until everyone in the group has had the opportunity to share.
- Close the activity out with your own prayer for the group.

**TODAY'S BIBLE STORY**

**Wait for It**

Simeon Waits for the Messiah  
Luke 2:25-35

**TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE**

**When you have to wait, remember God is with you.**

**MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE**

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**MONTHLY LIFE APP**

**Patience—Waiting until later for what you want now**

**BASIC TRUTH**

**I can trust God no matter what.**

**WHAT YOU SAY:**

"God, we know that You are always with us, but when things get tough and our patience is tested, we can forget that You're there. When we're waiting for *(insert a few of the things the kids named)*, help us remember that You are with us and will help us have patience. Thank You, God, for being with us and never leaving us. We love You. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.

"Today was a great day. I really loved being with you and learning about God and His Word. You guys are so fun! This week, remember that when you have to wait, God is with you! Let's say it together one last time. **When you have to wait, remember God is with you.**"

As adults arrive to pick up, ask the kids to tell them what we can do when we wait.





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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. EARLY ARRIVER**

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

**WHAT YOU NEED:**

- Offering container
- Hand sanitizer
- (Optional) phone

#### **2. OPENING ACTIVITY**

*Made to Create:* an activity that explores ideas through the process of drawing, building, designing, and problem-solving

**WHAT YOU NEED:**

- Boxes
- Tape
- Glue
- Scissors
- Wrapping paper
- Streamers
- Stickers
- Foam
- Pipe cleaners
- Construction paper
- Tissue paper
- (Optional) any other supplies that would contribute to a fabulous "cake"

### **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.)**

\* If you don't have time to do all these activities, be sure to do activity #1.

#### **\* 1. WAIT, WAIT, GO!**

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

*Made to Move:* an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

**WHAT YOU NEED:**

- A Bible

#### **2. THE PATIENCE GRID**

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

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

**WHAT YOU NEED:**

- Print "Patience Grid" Activity Page; one for every ten kids
- Game tokens like pennies or buttons; one for each kid

#### **3. WAIT FOR THE LORD**

[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

*Made to Create:* an activity that explores ideas through the process of drawing, building, designing, and problem-solving

**WHAT YOU NEED:**

- Bibles
- Marker
- Dictionary
- Paper strips

#### **4. PRAY AND DISMISS**

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

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

**WHAT YOU NEED:**

- Print "Prayer" Activity Page on cardstock; one for each small group

#### **HOME: PROMPTING ACTION BEYOND THE EXPERIENCE**

- Print on cardstock or email this week's GodTime devotionals and Parent Cue cards.
- Tell parents about our additional family resources: **Studio252.tv** and the **Parent Cue app**.