



APRIL THEME

ROAD TRIP

Some things are worth the wait

BIBLE STORY

Genesis 25:24-34

Souped Up | Esau's Impatience

BOTTOM LINE

When you think you can't wait,
think twice

MEMORY VERSE

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

LIFE APP

Patience | Waiting until later for what
you want now

BASIC TRUTH

I need to make the wise choice. With
God's help, I can!

FOR LEADERS ONLY

GOD VIEW: the connection between **PATIENCE** and God's character, as shown through God's big story.

Key Question: What could you miss out on by not waiting? God wants the best for us. Sometimes when we're waiting, we rush to what we can get now instead of what is best. We hope that kids and their families can discover that waiting for God's best is the wisest choice they can make. We don't want families to miss out on something God has planned for them because they weren't patient.

We'll finish out the month with one of the best examples of what happens when you're not patient; you lose something of value. In **Genesis 25:24-34**, we discover the story of Esau sacrificing his birthright for a bowl of stew. Because Esau was impatient, he lost something he could never get back.

Bottom Line: When you think you can't wait, think twice. Don't let your lack of patience cause you to make a decision you'll regret. Think twice about what really matters. Ask God to help you wait patiently for what matters most.

SOCIAL: PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION

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

Before kids arrive, **PRAY** for them. Pray that kids would start applying the things we've learned this month, if they haven't already. Ask God to make kids aware when they're in situations where their patience will be tested. Pray for God's strength to help kids think twice before acting impatiently. And pray that kids would be encouraged, knowing that with God's help, they can do it!

•• **EARLY ARRIVER IDEA**

Made to Connect | *An activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding*

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Ask kids about decisions they had to make this week.
- For instance, they may have had to decide what to wear, what to eat, what to do after school, who to sit with at lunch, whether or not to obey, etc.
- Talk about how they made those choices and if they were happy with the choices they made this week.

•• **FOOL ME ONCE**

Made to Play | *An activity that encourages learning through following guidelines*



and working as a group

What You Need: Penny

What You Do:

- Hold a penny behind your back.
- Encourage kids to guess which hand the penny is in, one at a time.
- The first kid to get it right gets to go next and hide the penny behind his back.
- Continue as long as time and interest allow, or until each kid has had a turn.

What You Say: “You guys were pretty good at choosing which hand the penny was in. **[Transition]** Today in Sunday CM worship/WOW family worship, we are going to hear/we heard about someone who had a very important choice to make but, sadly, he made the choice too quickly.”

[Sunday Leaders: Lead your group to the Family Room for Children’s Ministry Worship. Wednesday Leaders: Continue with the study.]

GROUPS: CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT

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

•• **SOUPER SOUP!** *[Talk about God | Bible Story Review]*

Made to Play | An activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

What You Need: Dice

What You Do:

- Let kids take turns rolling the die.
- When someone rolls a one, read the following fact from today’s Bible story
 - 1. Jacob and Esau were twins, but Esau was a little bit older.
- The kid who rolled the one should name one ingredient he would use to make a bowl of soup.
- Continue letting kids take turns rolling the dice until someone rolls a two. Read the corresponding fact and ask the roller to name two ingredients he would use to make a bowl of soup.
- Continue until all six facts have been read and lots of soup ingredients have been shared.
 - 2. Jacob liked to stay home, while Esau liked to hunt.
 - 3. While Esau was away hunting Jacob spent the time making a stew.
 - 4. When Esau got home, he was very hungry.
 - 5. Jacob asked Esau to give him his birthright before he would give him the stew.
 - 6. Esau gives Jacob his birthright, but wishes he had thought twice.

What You Say: “I don’t know about you guys, but all this talk of delicious soup ingredients is making me hungry! Sometimes it was hard to think of so many ingredients so quickly, wasn’t it? The best answer was not always clear right away, but you made a decision anyway. **[Make It Personal]** *(Talk about a time you had to make a quick decision.)* In this game, it wasn’t that big of a deal if you named a strange soup ingredient. But sometimes in life, making the wrong choice can cause problems or can hurt someone. That’s why it’s important that we shouldn’t rush into a quick choice, but instead **[Bottom Line]** when you think you can’t wait, think twice.”



●● **THINK...TWICE** [Live for God | Application Activity]

Made to Move | An activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body

What You Need: “Think...Twice” activity page

What You Do:

- Lead the kids in a stop-action version of charades.
- Read the scenarios on the activity page and guide kids to pantomime the situation as you read.
- Be sure to read dramatically and pause occasionally so the kids can pantomime the action.
- When you say, “Stop,” instruct kids to freeze.
- When you then say “Think...twice,” lead kids to put one forefinger on their temple when you say “Think” and their other forefinger on their other temple when you say “Twice.”
- With kids frozen in this position, read the two choices given.
- Guide kids to pantomime the wise choice.
- At the end of the game, invite kids to tell in which of the scenarios it would be hardest for them to practice patience.

What You Say: “It’s important that we don’t make the mistake of giving up what’s best for something we want now, but sometimes waiting can be hard! When is it hard for you to wait for something? (*Pause.*)

[Make It Personal] (*Tell kids when it’s hard for you to wait until later for something you want now. Also tell how you stop and think twice about the possible consequences and rewards.*)

“Who can help you make the wise choice to be patient? Yes! God can. So remember, **[Bottom Line]** when you think you can’t wait, **think twice**. Think about what you might miss out on if you don’t wait, and ask God to help you wait for what’s best!”

●● **SAY WHAT?** [Hear from God | Memory Verse Activity]

Made to Play | An activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group

What You Need: “Say What?” activity page, 3 dice

What You Do:

- Review the memory verse, found on the left column of the first page of this leader guide, as a group.
- Choose one kid to go first and roll all three dice. Add up the numbers from all three dice.
- Read the action from the Activity Page that matches the number they selected. Help the dice roller recite the verse while doing the appropriate action (*it is ok if they repeat the verse after you*).
- Repeat until every kid has a chance to roll the dice and say the verse.

What You Say: “This verse tells us twice to wait for the Lord. That must mean it’s pretty important. There are lots of times we might not want to wait for the Lord, like when we really want to know whether we got a part in the school play, or if we want to feel better right away when we are sick, or if we just want the school day to be over. But sometimes we just have to be patient and wait to see what will happen while we are waiting. Sometimes it’s just not good to rush things, but rather **[Bottom Line]** when you think you can’t wait, **think twice**.”

PRAY AND SEND [Pray to God | Prayer Activity]

Made to Reflect | An activity that creates space for personal understanding and application



**PRINCE
OF PEACE**
Called to Connect

APRIL
22/25
2018

GRADE 2-3
SMALL GROUP EXPERIENCE

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Ask kids what they think it means to be patient.
- Ask if anyone would like to share about times or situations where it's hard for them to be patient, and ask what they might try to do about that in order to help them wait.
- Encourage kids to bow their heads for a moment and silently ask God for help to think twice, keep their cool, and remember what's true.
- After a moment, pray aloud for the group, using the guide below.

What You Say: "God, sometimes it can be so hard to wait because we want something RIGHT NOW. But we know that it's better to remember that **[Bottom Line] when you think you can't wait, think twice.** So help us this week to take the time to think twice about our decisions. Help us think twice before we do or say something we might regret. Help us think twice before we decide to rush something that you have told us we need to wait for. Help us to think twice because we love you and we believe that your way is the best way. Amen."

What You Do: Give each child a **GodTime** card. Sunday leaders, hand out **Parent Cue** cards to any family who hasn't received one yet this month.