

Waiting With God



BIG IDEA

Waiting does not mean God has forgotten us.



LEADER GOAL

Help students understand that waiting can be difficult, but God is still with them and working even when they cannot see what He is doing. Introduce community as one of God's gifts and encourage students to support, include, and care for one another.



BEFORE STUDENTS ARRIVE

- Review Genesis 2:18 and the Joseph story.
- Be mindful that some students may be waiting through serious situations.



WELCOME + CONNECT



LEADER SAYS

"Welcome back, everyone! Last week, we talked about praying for other people. Did anyone try praying every day this week? What was that like?"

(Allow students to share without making anyone feel guilty if they did not complete the challenge.)

"Learning to pray regularly takes practice. God is always ready to listen. Today, we are going to talk about what happens when we pray, trust God, and then have to wait."

LIVE SPARK

GOD HAS NOT FORGOTTEN YOU

GRAB

An hourglass.

IDEA

Waiting can make us wonder if we've been forgotten. But waiting doesn't mean God has forgotten us.

SPARK

Waiting does not mean God has forgotten you.

DO / SAY

[Turn over the hourglass and stare at it.]
 "Okay... we wait."
[Watch it silently for a few seconds.]
 "Wow. This is taking... FOREVER."
[Look closely.]
 "One grain. Another grain. Come on!"
[Look at students.]
 "Have you noticed that when you're waiting for something... time feels slower?"
 "Waiting can be hard."
 "Sometimes we even start wondering: Did somebody forget about me?"
[Hold up the hourglass.]
 "Fiona understands that. She waited in that tower for a very long time. She didn't know when someone would come."
 "And sometimes we wait too. For an answer. For something to change. For something we've been praying about."
[Pause.]
 "The Bible says: Wait for the Lord; be strong and take heart."
 "It doesn't say waiting will always be quick."
 "It reminds us that we can have courage while we wait."
[Look at the hourglass.]
 "Because even when we can't see what God is doing... He has not forgotten us."
 "And sometimes He gives us people who can wait with us too."
[Gesture around group.]
 "So that's our Spark: WAITING DOES NOT MEAN GOD HAS FORGOTTEN YOU."
 "You are seen. You are not alone. And God is with you while you wait."

THEN Move directly into Junior Week 9 Welcome + Connect / Small Group activity.



STORY CONNECTION

I KNOW IT'S TODAY | WAITING DOESN'T MEAN GOD HAS FORGOTTEN YOU

LEADER SAYS

"Princess Fiona is trapped in a tower, waiting for someone to rescue her. She has been waiting for more than twenty years! During the song I Know It's Today, Fiona asks, 'Are you there, God?'"

"That is a question people sometimes ask when they have been waiting for a long time. We may wonder, 'God, do You see me? Do You hear me? Have You forgotten about me?'"

"Everyone waits for different things. Waiting can feel frustrating, lonely, or confusing, especially when we do not know how long it will last."

"But waiting does not mean that God has forgotten us. Sometimes, while we wait, God helps us grow closer to Him. We can learn to trust Him, talk to Him, and remember that He is with us even before our situation changes."



STORY CONNECTION

“The Bible tells us about a man named Joseph. Joseph was put in prison for something he did not do. He had to stay there for two whole years. That would have been a very difficult wait.”

“Even while Joseph was in prison, God was with him. Joseph continued using a gift God had given him. God helped Joseph understand the meaning of dreams, and Joseph used that gift to help other people.”

“Eventually, the king of Egypt heard about Joseph’s gift. Joseph’s wisdom helped save many people from a terrible famine, and the king placed him in an important position of leadership.”

“God had not forgotten Joseph while he was waiting. Joseph could not see everything God was doing, but God was still with him and still at work.”



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1 Have you ever had to wait for something that felt like it was taking forever? What was that like?

2 What can you do instead of giving up when something does not happen right away?

3 What do you think Joseph learned about God while he was waiting?

4 How can friends, family members, or people at K2K help us when we are waiting?

5 What could you say to God when you are tired of waiting?



SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

COMMUNITY - THE GIFT OF COMMUNITY

"Waiting can be difficult, but God has not asked us to go through life alone. One of the gifts He gives us is community."

"A community is a group of people who share something and care for one another."

"It is not good for the man to be alone."

Genesis 2:18

"God created people to live in relationship with Him and with one another. He made us to support, help, encourage, and love each other."

"Being part of a community is not only about what we receive. God also invites each of us to participate: be kind, help, encourage, welcome people, and listen."

"Every student has something to offer this community. God can use all of us to make our community stronger."



STUDENT REFLECTION

PROMPT What are some ways people in a community can help one another?



THIS WEEK - YOUR CHALLENGE!

"This week, your challenge is to do something kind for someone in one of your communities. You could help someone without being asked, encourage a friend, invite someone to join you, write a kind note, pray for someone, or thank a person who has helped you."

"Try to notice one person who may need support and look for a simple way to care for them."



CLOSING PRAYER

Dear God, thank You for another great day at K2K. Thank You for being with us when we are waiting, even when we cannot see what You are doing.

Help us to be patient and to grow closer to You when we are waiting for a situation to change. Remind us that waiting does not mean You have forgotten us.

Thank You for the gift of community and for the people You have placed in our lives. Help us support, encourage, include, and care for one another.

Amen.



WISE ADVICE CHALLENGE

Split students into small groups. Give each group a scenario.

Examples

- You're deciding whether to switch schools.
- Your friend is being excluded from a group.
- You're offered a leadership position.
- You have two activities scheduled at the same time.
- Someone asks you to keep a secret that feels wrong.

The group has 2 minutes to decide: 1) what they would do, 2) who they would ask for advice, and 3) what questions they would ask. Then share.

Connection Activities



SUPPLIES

Hula hoop



PASS THE HOOP

SUPPLIES: Hula hoop.

1. Have students stand in a large circle and hold hands.
2. Place a hula hoop over the arms of two students before they join hands.
3. Explain that the goal is to move the hula hoop all the way around the circle without anyone letting go of each other's hands.
4. Students must work together by stepping through the hoop, ducking, twisting, and helping one another move it around the circle.
5. Once the hoop makes it back to the starting point, celebrate and move on to a new challenge!

Challenge Round 1: Beat Your Time

Time how long it takes the group to complete one lap. Encourage them to communicate and work together to beat their own time on the next attempt.

Challenge Round 2: Silent Round

No one is allowed to talk. Students must work together using only gestures, eye contact, and encouragement through smiles and body language.

Challenge Round 3: Back-to-Back

Split into two teams and see which team can complete the challenge first. Afterwards, remind students that although competition can be fun, God's family is about helping one another.