

Small Group Experience

LESSON 2 - “Why Are You Taking So Long?”



Whatchagaddaknow?:
“I Will Trust God’s Timing And Not Jump Ahead!”



Power Verse:
“Be still in the presence of the Lord, and wait patiently for him to act.”

- Psalm 37:7

Retelling The Bible Story

SUPPLY LIST:

* No additional supplies needed

TEACHER INSTRUCTIONS:

To review the Bible story, use the provided lesson excerpt. Before reading, explain the activity to the group: they’ll be listening closely for the name Moses. The first time they hear the name “Moses,” they will stand up. They must stay standing until they hear “Moses” again. When they hear it the next time, they may sit down. Every time “Moses” is said, they will switch—stand, then sit, then stand again—waiting each time for the next mention of his name. Keep reading and continue the pattern until the story is finished. This activity helps kids practice active listening and patience—two great ways to connect with today’s lesson on waiting for God’s timing!

Say- I could not wait to see you today! And I can’t wait to get started on our small group time... But—wait. I need to give you some instructions first. Do you think you can wait just a little longer? Or should I tell you right now? Ok, Ok. I know you’re ready, so let’s go! We’re going to practice your waiting skills while we review today’s Bible story.

Say- Here’s how it works: When you hear me say “Moses” for the first time, I want you to stand up. Now here’s the tricky part: you’ll have to wait. Stay standing until you hear me say “Moses” again. Then, you can sit down. Every time you hear the name “Moses,” you’ll switch—stand, wait... sit, wait... and so on! Sometimes the wait will be quick. Sometimes, you might be standing or sitting for a little longer. That’s part of the fun! Are you ready to listen carefully and wait patiently? Alright, let’s jump in!

-Read the Bible story, pausing when you say “Moses” to allow the kids to respond-

As a baby, **Moses** was adopted by Pharaoh’s daughter. **Moses** grew up in the palace as Pharaoh’s grandson. He enjoyed all of the privileges and perks of palace life, but **Moses** had been taught by his birth mother. He knew that he was a Hebrew and that God had a plan for his life.

Moses was out walking one day when he came upon an Egyptian soldier beating a Hebrew slave. The Egyptians were always treating the Hebrews terribly. After all, the Hebrews were slaves in Egypt. **Moses** had no doubt seen scenes like this many times growing up, but this time it was different. **Moses** got very angry and decided to do something. He probably thought it was just not fair that God’s people would be treated this way. So, **Moses** took things into his own hands. He looked around, saw nobody was watching, then grabbed the Egyptian soldier, struck him, and killed him. He hid the Egyptian soldier’s body in the sand.

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Moses thought he had gotten away with it. The next day, he went out walking again. This time, he came upon two Hebrew slaves fighting and arguing with one another. **Moses** stopped them and said, “Why are you fighting with your brother like this? You are both Hebrews! You should not be fighting like this.”

One of the Hebrews turned to **Moses** and said, “Why? Are you gonna kill me like you did that Egyptian soldier?” How did this slave know what he had done? If this slave knew, it wouldn’t be long before Pharaoh found out!

Sure enough, Pharaoh found out what happened. Pharaoh tried to kill **Moses**, but **Moses** escaped by running off into the desert, where he would stay for many years.

Say- Thank you for listening, waiting, standing, and sitting! You may have a seat for the rest of our time together. Now, let’s talk about what you learned from this part of Moses’ life.

Ask- Why do you think Moses acted instead of waiting on God?

-Allow time for response; discuss thoughts with the group-

Ask- What do you think could have been different if Moses had waited and asked God what to do first?

-Allow time for response; discuss thoughts with the group-

Game/Activity

SUPPLY LIST:

- * Power Verse Print Piece (provided; print one per team on carstock)
- * Envelopes (one per team)

TEACHER INSTRUCTIONS:

Before the small group begins, print the Power Verse Print Pieces and gather the necessary supplies. Ensure each verse is printed, cut into puzzle-shaped pieces, and placed into individual envelopes. Once activity time begins, each team will be given an envelope that contains the mixed-up pieces of a puzzle made from the words of the Power Verse. During the game, teams will race to complete their puzzle as quickly as possible, but there’s a twist! At random times, you’ll call out “FREEZE AND WAIT!” When they hear that, all players must stop immediately—no moving, talking, or touching puzzle pieces until you say “GO” again. The goal isn’t just to be the fastest team; it’s to help kids experience what it feels like to pause and wait, just like we discussed in the lesson. It’s a fun way to reinforce that waiting is part of trusting God’s plan, even when we want to keep going. This can be played multiple rounds as time allows.

Say- Alright, friends, are you ready for a race? But not just any race—this is a Power Verse Puzzle Race... with a twist! Each team is going to get an envelope filled with puzzle pieces. When I say “GO,” your team will open it and start putting together the verse we’ve been learning today, Psalm 37:7. Sounds easy, right? Well... here’s the twist. At any moment, I might yell out, “FREEZE AND WAIT!” When I do, you have to stop moving. Hands off the puzzle. Stay completely still. No talking, no touching the pieces, no whispering strategies.

Say- This game isn’t just about being fast—it’s about learning how to wait. When I say “GO” again, you’ll keep puzzling. We’ll go back and forth between building and waiting. Your job is to stay patient, keep your cool, and work as a team. Ready to race... and wait? Let’s go!

-Play the Power Verse Puzzle Challenge; repeat rounds as time allows-

Group Sharing**SUPPLY LIST:**

- * Trust God's Timing Print Piece (*provided; print one per kid*)
- * Pencils, crayons, or markers

TEACHER INSTRUCTIONS:

Before the small group begins, review the lesson content and prepare the Trust God's Timing print pieces. Group sharing empowers kids to engage in meaningful discussions and connect the lesson concepts with their own experiences. Help facilitate and guide the discussion time.

Ask- Have you ever tried doing a puzzle without the picture on the box?

-Allow time for responses-

Say- It's frustrating, right? You're trying to guess where the pieces go, but you don't know what it should look like. Sometimes, we think we've found the perfect fit, but when we try to jam it in, it just doesn't work.

Ask- How do you think that's like trying to handle life without waiting for God's plan?

-Allow time for response; discuss thoughts with the group-

Say- When we don't wait on God, or don't talk to Him about what we're doing, it's like guessing where the puzzle pieces go without seeing the big picture. We might really want to help, like Moses did, but if we don't have God's direction, we might force something that doesn't belong!

Ask- Have you ever done something you thought was right in the moment but ended up causing trouble?

-Allow time for responses-

Say- It happens to all of us. We might think we're solving a problem, but later realize we hurt someone's feelings, or made something worse because we didn't stop and ask for help. That's why waiting on God is so important: He sees the whole puzzle when we only see a few pieces. Let's read Psalm 37:7 together. Can someone read it from their paper?

-Choose a volunteer and allow them to read the verse aloud-

Say- “Be still” and “wait patiently” might sound easy, but that's tough when it looks like everyone else is getting what they want, or things aren't going our way. But Psalm 37:7 reminds us that even when things feel unfair or slow, God still sees, He still has a plan, and He asks us to wait with trust.

Ask- What do you think it means to be still before the Lord?

-Allow time for response; discuss thoughts with the group-

Say- It could mean being physically still, praying, or stopping long enough to hear God's voice. It's not just sitting around—it's trusting while we wait. Like holding onto that puzzle piece and saying, “God, I'll wait for You to show me where this fits.” Even if someone else's way looks faster or easier, God's way is always better in the long run. Waiting is hard, but trusting God is always worth it.

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Ask- Why do you think it's hard to wait on God sometimes?

-Allow time for response; discuss thoughts with the group-

Say- You might want something to happen fast—like a problem to be fixed, a prayer to be answered, or someone to change. But God might be working behind the scenes in ways you don't know about. He's building the puzzle carefully. Also, it can be really challenging to wait when you don't know what will happen next. Sometimes we want to rush to answers and solutions because not knowing is tough!

Ask- Rushing ahead of God's timing can hurt others. Why do you think that happens?

-Allow time for response; discuss thoughts with the group-

Say- Sometimes when we rush, we forget to think about how our actions affect the people around us. Moses' decision didn't just mess up his situation; it affected his whole nation. It's a big reminder: Our choices don't only affect us.

Ask- What's something in your life right now that you wish would happen faster? Write your answer down.

-Allow time for the kids to write their responses-

Ask- What's something you can do to help you wait on God and trust His timing? Write your answer down.

-Allow time for the kids to write their responses-

Say- God sees the whole puzzle when we only have a few pieces. Every time you feel like rushing ahead or trying to fix things fast, picture God holding the full picture of the complete puzzle of your life. He sees the whole picture, completed in His perfect plan! He knows where every piece goes. And He loves you enough to help you place them in the right spot, one at a time.

Prayer Time

Say- Great job discussing today! Now, let's take some time to pray. Would anyone like to lead us in prayer?

-Allow time for a volunteer to pray. If no one volunteers, you can lead the prayer-

Pray

Closing

Say- Today, we saw that even someone like Moses, who God used in amazing ways, had a moment when he rushed ahead instead of waiting on God. And just like that puzzle game, sometimes we want to jump in and fix things quickly, but God asks us to pause, trust, and wait for His timing. Psalm 37:7 reminds us to “be still before the Lord and wait patiently for Him,” even when it feels like others are racing ahead. God sees the whole picture of our lives, even the pieces we don't understand yet. So, whether you're standing, waiting, or wondering what comes next, know He's working, and His timing is always perfect. Let's learn to wait well, trust big, and follow God, one piece at a time. Thanks for coming today. I can't wait to see you again soon!

**BE STILL IN THE
PRESENCE OF THE
LORD, AND WAIT
PATIENTLY FOR HIM
TO ACT.**

- PSALM 37:7

TRUST GOD'S TIMING!

What's something in your life right now
that you wish would happen faster?



What's something you can do to help you
to wait on God and trust His timing?



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