

## CITY LG – April 13-14, 2024

**Today's Bible Story:** Can't Hardly Wait (Esau's Impatience) • *Genesis 25:24-34*

**Today's Bottom Line:** When you think you can't wait, think twice.

**Monthly Memory Verse:** *Wait for the LORD. Be strong and don't lose hope. Wait for the LORD.*  
Psalm 27:14 (NirV)

**Monthly Virtue:** Patience—Waiting until later for what you want now

### WORSHIP

All of Me  
He Has Won

**Have kids get into their small groups Before you start Large Group**

**SLIDE: Theme**

Hi, everyone! I'm so pumped to be here with all of you today. The City is one of my favorite places to be, because we learn really helpful things AND because we always have so much fun! This month we're talking about patience.

Patience is . . . wait for it . . . wait for it . . .

**SLIDE: Virtue**

Patience is **waiting until later for what you want now.**

**SLIDE: Theme**

See what I did there? You had to be patient while you waited for me to explain patience! It's tough when we have to wait for something we really want. But God can help us to wait WELL (*deep breath*) . . . by choosing to be patient.

I'm going to give you some time to discuss this question as a group....

**What is something that you really want right now but you have to wait for?** (*walk around and listen to kids' answer is their groups. Bring them back together in a few minutes when most groups are done). If time, have a couple of kids share their answers with the group.*

Today's story is from the very first book in the Bible, Genesis.

In Genesis, we read how God created this amazing world and everything in it. But people turned away from God and chose to go their own way. Still, God had a good plan to make things right. God chose a man named Abraham and promised to bless the whole world through his family. But this didn't happen right away, though. Abraham and his wife Sarah had to wait.

Take a look at their story in the Story Lab...

**VIDEO: Bible Story Video**

**SLIDE: Theme**

Esau was so hungry that he didn't think he could wait one more second! He didn't have patience, and because of that, he gave up his rights as the oldest son.

Eventually, Jacob and Esau made up and fixed their relationship. But Esau's choice wasn't something he could take back. It was done for good.

So, what can we learn from Esau's impatience? Take a look at our bottom line.

**VIDEO: Bottom Line**

**SLIDE: Bottom Line**

### **When you think you can't wait, think twice.**

Think twice! Stop and ask God to help you make the wise choice, so you don't end up doing something you regret. Whatever situation you find yourself in, you can always ask God to help you wait.

Remember, when we decide to follow Jesus, God sends the Holy Spirit to live inside us. God's Spirit can help us to have patience . . . even when we might think we can't do it.

If we choose to put our trust in God, then it will be easier for us to wait . . . because we know that God is with us. It's like we read in our Memory Verse for this month, Psalm 27:14:

**SLIDE: Memory Verse**

*Wait for the LORD.*

*Be strong and don't lose hope.*

*Wait for the LORD. (Psalm 27:14, NIV)*

Can you say that with me?

Maybe you have to wait for your turn to play your favorite video game. Instead of having a bad attitude or saying something unkind to your brother while HE plays . . . you can stop and ask God to help you wait patiently.

Maybe you're at the grocery store with your mom, and you're SO bored. It seems like it's taking FOREVER, and you just want to go home. You could grumble and complain. Or you could think twice . . . and ask God to help you be patient.

bet you can think of some situations in your life when you feel like you just can't wait another SECOND for something to happen. What can you do when you feel like you can't wait? You can stop and think twice. You can pray and ask God to help you.

Let's pray and ask God to help us choose patience right now.

**SLIDE: Theme Background**

Dear God, thank You for this story about Jacob and Esau. There are times when it can be really hard for us to be patient. Sometimes we want to just act without thinking, like Esau did. But we know that if we stop and think twice, You can help us make the wise choice. Please give us the wisdom to be patient, God. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

#### **OFFERING:**

There's a ministry that we are supporting with our offering until the summer. It's called Morning Star Mission and it's located right near here, in Joliet, IL.

**SLIDES: Morningstar pictures** *(scroll through as the leader talks about the mission)*

Since its beginning in 1909, Morning Star Mission has had one main goal — to help people in need. Morning Star Mission helps people who are struggling to have enough money to live. They have a shelter that gives them a place to live if they don't have a home. People in the community can go to the mission to get clothes and food if they need it too. AND they tell people about Jesus and his love for them while they are helping them, how cool is that?

Morning Star doesn't just stop there. They have many programs that they offer people to help them get in a better financial place so that they don't need the help anymore. Morning Star is a mission that is changing lives in our area!

**SLIDE: Theme**