

Alley Rundown - April 21-22, 2018

Bible Story: Watch for Livestock (Golden Calf) * *Exodus 32:1-35*

Bottom Line: When you think you can't wait, think about what's true.

Key Question: What can you think about when it's hard to wait?

Memory Verse: "Wait for the LORD. Be strong and don't lose hope. Wait for the LORD!"
Psalm 27:14, NIV

NOTE: Worship Experience Instructions on Page 3

CONNECT TIME: License Plate Decoding Game

"Hey, everyone! Who's taken a Road Trip recently? Maybe you traveled for spring break and spent hours and hours in a car. What do you do in the car when you're on a road trip? (*Take some answers.*) Those are great! I wish I had those sorts of things when I was traveling on road trips as a kid. No, when I was a kid, we had to make up games on the fly. One of my favorites was checking out license plates. I loved trying to find license plates from faraway states. And I always tried to find those custom plates that spelled things out. With that in mind, I've created a game that pays homage to those fancy plates of my past . . . I need two players! Who wants to play?!"

Choose two volunteers.

"Here's how this works. I'll flash a license plate on the screen. The license plate contains letters that spell out – in license plate code – something to do with a road trip. The first person to call out the correct road trip term gets a point. First person to three points wins. Ready? Go!"

The following plates will appear on the slide. If you prefer, adapt the game so that more people will get to play, make the winner the first to two points and then call up two new volunteers, bring partners up, etc.

*5NAK5 (snacks), BK5EATDRVR (Backseat driver), CNTREER0AD (Country Road),
G00GLMP5 (Google Maps), TOLL\$ (Toll Money), M1LEMRKR (Mile Marker),
\$PEEDL1M1T (Speed Limit), PL4YL15T (Playlist), P0THLE (Pot Hole), 5PEEDNGTIX
(Speeding Ticket)*

"(After game) Great job, and thanks for playing!"

Begin Rundown...

This has been an incredible month for me. I've been learning a ton about what it means to wait—how when it is tough to show patience, we can talk to God like Hannah did. Or when we feel ourselves losing our cool when we're waiting, we can be patient and show understanding like our Proverb last week. But have you ever been in a situation where it is so tough to wait that you start to listen to the other people around you . . . even when it's wrong?"

(Allow responses, or share a personal story of your own)

“Those were some tough situations. In our Bible Story today, the Israelites faced a similarly tough situation. How did they handle it? We’ll find out in this week’s episode. Before we do, let’s take some time to bring our offering to God.”

OFFERING:

Homer Glen: Victor

New Lenox: Daniel

Orland Park: Michael and Valerie

CG: Picture of Child

“Offering Time is important here in the Alley, because it gives you all an opportunity to worship God by giving your money generously. Here at (your campus), we give our offering to help support (your campus child) in Kenya. Our offering goes to show kindness to them by buying clothes, and food, and other materials they may need. If you brought an offering today, you may bring it up when the video plays and place it here (*show offering container*). If not, that’s ok too. You can bring an offering next week. The Bible tells us this about bringing our offerings to Him...”

CG: Offering Verse JPEG (2 Corinthians 9:6-7)

“Let’s take a look at this week’s episode!”

CG: Week 4 Lesson Video (Runtime: 11:52)

“Now, my guess is that none of us is going to bow down to a golden cow . . . or even feel pressured by friends to do this. But we have our own challenges when we find ourselves having to wait, right?”

“These are tough conversations, and that is why I’m glad you have Small Groups to talk with! But more importantly, we can talk to God about these tough decisions, too, and ask for His wisdom. As you go to your groups, think about some other moments where it can be tough to remember what’s true.”

CG: Key Question Slide

“Here’s the question. What can you think about when it’s hard to wait? We can’t escape waiting, but we can figure out how to wait without causing damage to the relationships in our lives. Before we head to groups, here’s our Worship Experience for today.”

CG: Worship Experience Video (Runtime: 5:00)

WORSHIP EXPERIENCE

What You Need: Party horns (1 per child, they keep it and take it home), cotton balls (12 per bin, reuse each service) race track table cloth, and floor tape

What You Do:

- **Create** a starting line by placing the race track table cloth on your Small Group space and taping it to the floor or table of your space.
- **Ask** everyone to line up along the starting line.
- **Read** Psalm 27:14: *"Wait for the Lord. Be strong and don't lose hope. Wait for the Lord."*
- **Give** each student a blowout party horn and a cotton ball.
- **Explain** that they will use the party horn to push their cotton ball "cars" along the floor (or table) by blowing the horn out and bumping the "car" forward, one at a time.
- **Tell** them to "park" their cars anywhere between the lines of tape, depending on how patient or impatient they were this past week. *Remind them that this is not a competition, it's an opportunity to be honest.*
 - If they had a great week, tell them to push their cars to the finish line.
 - If they lost their cools and let their tempers get out of hand, tell them to park their cars closer to the starting line.
 - Anywhere in between means they had some good days as well as some bad.
- After all the cars are positioned, PRAY this prayer together:

"Dear Jesus, thank You for this opportunity to think about times when we may have lost our cools, and times when we held it together. We know that we worship You when we show patience and put You first. Help us not to lose our patience, and to live our lives more like You every day. Amen."