



Waiting For Isaac

Genesis 21

God Statement: God is Our Promise Keeper

KEY VERSE:

“The Lord will keep all His promises.” Psalm 145:13a, NIRV

CHECK-IN

(until 15 minutes after the start of each service)

As kids check-in, please have them wash their hands or use hand sanitizer before entering your classroom. Then they can participate in the various activities and games in your classroom. 10 minutes after the start of your service time, ask the kids to clean up their activities and toys so you can begin the Explore Activity at 15 minutes after the start of service.

EXPLORE ACTIVITY

(10 minutes)

The Explore Activity is a chance to get the kids thinking about the upcoming Bible story for the day. Encourage your kids to engage with the activity as they prepare for the lesson.

DISCUSS: God is Our Promise Keeper

In today's lesson, we are going to learn about how God keeps His promises, even when we have to wait a long time.

How does it feel to wait for something? We can be excited to get our treat but sometimes we have to wait so long that we feel crabby. What if we just grabbed it?
(Allow the kids to respond)

PLAY: Waiting for Something Special (food treat)

To get the kids thinking about the lesson, they will have to wait for a treat.

Supplies: *special snack*

Directions: Gather kids around the table and place the treats in the center of it. Talk about how special and yummy it is. Talk about things to do while waiting to eat the snack. Then, put the treat back up on the shelf until after story time.

Say: Wow, we've got something really special today. What do you see on the table? Ooh, isn't that nice? We get to have a treat today. But we must wait for it. Ooh, that looks really good. Very special. How nice. Yes, we must wait. What can we do while we're waiting? Let's march around the room. **Have kids march around.** Ooh, that treat looks so yummy. OK, let's do something else while we're waiting. How about we jump up and down? **Have kids jump up and down.** Mmm, that treat looks very special. What else could we do while we're waiting? **(Do what a child suggests.)** Well, we have to put away the treat until after story time. I promise we can have the treat then. **Put the treat on the cupboard shelf.**

CLEAN UP

(5 minutes)

Have the children begin cleaning up as you transition into Large Group time. All the toys should be put away by the end of clean up time.

Try singing: "Clean up, clean up, everybody do your share. Clean up, clean up, everybody everywhere."

LARGE GROUP

(15 minutes)

After clean up, have your class gather around the story time rug/blanket/squares and Hamilton's house for Large Group time. .

WELCOME & PRAYER

Tell the kids you are so excited to have them joining you this morning and give them a brief explanation of Large Group and the expectations of them during this time. After going over the expectations, pray to open large group time.

WORSHIP (5-7 minutes)

Before starting the lesson, open Large Group time by singing a few familiar songs and using instruments. **Find these songs on Plex Videos in the EC 2s3s Folder**

BIBLE STORY (5-7 minutes)***THIS WEEK'S LESSON: Waiting for Isaac***

Using the props and Hamilton puppet, tell the story for the day. Make sure to keep it brief and engaging by asking the kids questions throughout and using Hamilton to keep their attention.

Say: Hamilton doesn't want to come out. ***He shakes his head. He turns his body.*** Hamilton, what's wrong? ***He shakes his head and turns his body away.*** Hey, it's ok. Maybe we can help.

Hamilton comes out and whispers in your ear.

Say: Oh Hamilton, I'm sorry to hear that. May I tell our friends? ***He nods his head.*** Well friends, Hamilton feels very yucky and dirty inside. His mommy told him to wait for his surprise, but Hamilton didn't want to wait. When his mommy went into the other room, Hamilton took some of his treats. Then his mom came back in and told him to sit on his bed for a while with no toys. Ooh boy. That's a tough one. I'm sorry that happened, Hamilton. Friends, what can Hamilton do? Let's listen to our story and then we can talk about it.

Use the picture of Abraham and Sarah and baby Isaac to tell the story.

Tell the story briefly and with enthusiasm.

Say: God promised Abraham and Sarah that they would have a baby. They had to wait a looonng time. They waited. They waited. And they waited. One day, baby Isaac was born. They were so happy! God always keeps His promises. He is our Promise Keeper!

Say: Hamilton, waiting is hard. You can find things to do while you're waiting. Friends, remember how we had to wait for our treat? We marched, we jumped and we_____. And now, it's almost time for us to have our treat.

Say: Hamilton, do you feel better? ***He nods.*** Ok, why don't you find your mommy and tell her you're sorry and give her a big hug?

SAY IT OUT LOUD! (30 seconds)

This is the opportunity to remind the children of the God Statement for the day. Even if they struggle to pay attention during the lesson, this part is important to do every week.

We are learning that God is our promise keeper. *Point to the large poster that will be on the wall in your class all quarter: "God is our Promise Keeper"* (Have the kids shout it out together multiple times)

WORSHIP RESPONSE (2 minutes)

Worship Response is an opportunity for the kids to apply what they just learned and to respond to what God is doing in their life. *Have the kids sit in a place where they can be still and reflect independently.* Then read through the Worship Response prompts below as you lead the kids through the time.

Encourage class to sit quietly. God is our Promise Keeper. He promises to always love us. He promises that He is always with us. He promises to protect us. Thank you God that you are our promise keeper.

BLESSING (1 minute)

Read the verse and blessing over the kids before closing Large Group. Encourage the kids to stand and open their hands to receive the blessing as a truth that they can take with them this week and hide in their hearts.

Let's remember our verse: "The Lord will keep all his promises." Can you say that with me.
The Lord will keep all his promises.

Friends, God will keep His promise to you. He always loves you and watches over you.

CLOSING ACTIVITIES

(Until parents pickup)

PLAY: Classroom Activities

Children can play with classroom activities until parents pick up.

CHECK-OUT

(end of service)

As parents arrive for check-out, the kids can continue playing with the classroom games and toys.

Isaac is born

Baby and Toddler edition



