



GETTING READY

1. Welcome/Opener

What You Need:

- Host
- Human Bingo boards (enough for every person)
- Pens (enough for every person)

Music and Sound Effects (SFX):

- Upbeat music to use as kids enter and exit the room

Large Group Visuals (downloadable from the website):

- Road Trip Slide

What You Do:

- In your search engine of choice, search for Human Bingo

2. Communicator Script

What You Need:

- Communicator
- Plastic bottle hourglass (see “What You Do” to create ahead of time)

Large Group Visuals (downloadable from the website):

- Key Question Slide

What You Do:

- Make a plastic bottle hourglass to reveal the key verse during the Bible Truth. Use two 2-liter or 3-liter clear plastic bottles. Fill one with sand. Put a piece of tape over the mouth of one bottle and put a small hole in it (the bigger the hole, the faster the sand will go through. You may need to experiment with different sizes). Put the bottles together at the mouth and tape together with duct tape. Tape "1 Samuel 1:20" on the outside of the top bottle (with the words facing the inside of the bottle) so that it can be seen through the top bottle once the sand runs out—the reference is the reveal once the sand goes down).

3. Worship

What You Need:

- We Are Royals
- Through It All

Baby on Board

Bible Story: Baby on Board (Hannah Prays for a Baby) * 1 Samuel 1:6–2:1

Bottom Line: When you think you can't wait, talk to God about it.

Key Question: When is it hard to have patience?

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

Life App: Patience—Waiting until later for what you want now

Basic Truth: I can trust God no matter what.

Story: Communicating God's Truth in Engaging Ways (Large Group, 35 minutes)

Engage kids' hearts through a dynamic and interactive Bible story, worship, and prayer experience in a Large Group setting.

SFX: Play high-energy music as kids enter.

CG: Road Trip Slide

Host enters.

Welcome

Host has lots of energy as he or she welcomes everyone to [Name of Environment]. Host is relatable and inviting. Host can talk about something that happened culturally throughout the week like a big sports game (baseball opening day was March 29), movie opening, or a viral video on YouTube, etc. Host tells them how excited he or she is that they're there and briefly runs through what they can expect. This is especially helpful for first-time guests to make them feel like they know what's happening.

Opener

HOST: "What's going on, everybody! Awesome to see you all here this morning! Alright, let's get moving right away with an all-play game! Have you ever played Human Bingo? Well, this is the Road Trip edition! In just a second, your Small Group Leaders will hand you a bingo board (*hold up bingo board*) and a pen. Your job is to go around the room and find someone who has done something mentioned in one of the squares and have them sign your paper. A couple quick rules: you can't sign your own, AND only one person's signature per paper. The first to get 4 in a row—up, down, or diagonal—will run up to the front be the winner!"

"Make sense, everybody? Alright, DO NOT start until I say go . . ."

Have small group leaders pass out a bingo card and pen to every person. Note: if you do not have enough kids in the room to fill the bingo boards with one person's signature per paper, you can ignore that rule in order for kids to get bingo.

HOST: “Ready, set, GO!!!”

Host helps facilitate and provides commentary.

HOST: (*After winner*) “We have a winner, folks! Thanks for playing, everybody!”

Worship

WORSHIP LEADER: “Hey, everyone!. Get up on your feet. We don’t sing songs just to sing songs. We sing these songs because we want to give praise and honor to our incredible God for all that He has done. This song is a great reminder that it’s all about Him. Sing with me.”

SFX: “*We Are Royals*”

SFX: “*Through It All*”

Storyteller enters as Worship Leaders exit.

COMMUNICATOR SCRIPT

INTRODUCTION

COMMUNICATOR: “Hey, hey, everybody! Great to see you today. We had such an awesome Easter last weekend; let’s keep that momentum going full speed ahead. So . . . I have a question for you right at the top: have you ever had to wait for something . . . and it, well . . . was really hard to wait? If you have an example, turn and tell your small groooooouuuuuup . . . NOW!”

Give a moment to share. If you have time, have one or two of the small groups share a story.

“I heard some great examples! I think I heard summer break . . . oh, yeah, we’ve ALL had to wait for summer . . . sleeping in late in the morning, going to the pool, playing with friends . . . that’s the best! Or maybe you’ve had to wait for an upcoming birthday or a holiday . . . you want all of those presents or big meals with the family . . . I mean, who doesn’t love that?!”

Here is a chance to make it personal and tell a story from your own life. You can use the following personal story as an example or set it up as an “Imagine if” story (“Imagine that it’s Christmas . . .”)

“When I think of waiting for something, I think about Christmas when I was a kid. My brother and I would wake up REALLY early in the morning and run in and wake up our parents. They would tell us that it was too early and to go back to bed. We’d sulk and go back to our beds . . . but who can sleep under those circumstances?! Instead, we’d watch the clock and wait until our parents would FINALLY say we could come downstairs. We’d run down and see those presents sitting under the tree . . . but then we couldn’t open them up yet! Nope. We had to walk past them—NO TOUCHING!—and head right to the breakfast table, where we would have to eat the breakfast that my mom had prepared. I’m thinking, ‘We’ll just eat cereal later, Mom!’ But she wanted to make a big breakfast. And in the distance, behind every bite of breakfast casserole, sat a shiny, wrapped wonderland—an OFF-LIMITS wonderland. Man, it was so hard to wait! Finally, we’d help clear the breakfast table—as fast as humanly possible—and go open presents . . . so I guess it worked out in the end.”

TENSION

COMMUNICATOR: “Okay, so let’s be honest. These times when we’ve had to wait for something and it had been REALLY hard to wait, do we ever struggle with HOW we wait? Do you know what I mean? Like, when I’m that kid sitting at the breakfast table on Christmas morning . . . even though I’m not running to open my presents, is it possible that I still might not be showing a lot of patience with HOW I’m waiting? (*Acting it out, hold an imaginary fork talking super fast*) ‘Yeah, Mom, this is great and I took two bites now can I throw the rest in the garbage and go open my presents?’ Of course, you’d *never* do that, right?!” (*Wink.*)

“I think what makes it hard to wait sometimes is that we feel like we’re missing out. Or we feel like everything is going right for the people around us but we think that we’re stuck.”

TRUTH

COMMUNICATOR: “Believe it or not, people in the Bible felt like this from time to time. They’re stories can teach us a ton about this whole idea of being patient when it’s tough. Head with me to a book in the Old Testament called 1 Samuel.”

“In the story, we meet a woman named Hannah. She is a good woman who worships God, but right away we learn that she has some difficulties—she is not able to have children. Back then and in that culture, this was a HUGE deal. Not only was she unable to have children, but also we learn in the story that a woman named Peninnah makes fun of her because of her situation. That’s cold, right? We pick up the story at a time when Hannah and her family traveled to the tabernacle. This was where God lived among his people as well as the place where people went to worship and make sacrifices to God. Check it out . . .”

(Read directly from 1 Samuel 1:6-7, NIV) “Peninnah teased Hannah to make her angry. She did it because the Lord had kept Hannah from having children. Peninnah teased Hannah year after year. Every time Hannah would go up to the house of the Lord, [Peninnah] would tease her. She would keep doing it until Hannah cried and wouldn’t eat.”

“That’s pretty awful, right? Hannah is unable to have kids, and Peninnah is making fun of her to the point that Hannah just breaks down crying and can’t even eat.”

“And it says this happened YEAR after YEAR. Waiting . . . no kids . . . teasing . . . waiting . . . no kids . . . teasing . . . on and on . . . year after year. And for Hannah, she might have felt like time was never going to move fast enough to ever have kids. Sorta like watching time pass in an hourglass.”

Take the plastic bottle hourglass.

“For Hannah, time just continues to go by . . . and nothing has happened.”

Flip hourglass over so that it begins to empty into the bottom. When it is empty, it will reveal the key verse.

“Okay, now let’s be honest about something for a moment. I don’t think Hannah’s husband is doing a lot to help. Check out his reaction – *(Read from 1 Samuel 1:8, NIV) ‘Her husband Elkanah would say to her, “Hannah, why are you crying? Why don’t you eat? Why are you so unhappy? Don’t I mean more to you than ten sons?”’*”

“Don’t be upset, honey . . . you’ve got ME! That’s a husband fail right there. So, here’s Hannah . . . waiting and waiting . . . and it is really tough because not many people in her life seem to really understand . . . or be helping much. Hannah did the only thing she knew to do.”

(Read from 1 Samuel 1:9-10, NIV) “One time when they had finished eating and drinking in Shiloh (that’s where the tabernacle is), Hannah stood up. Eli the priest was sitting on his chair by the doorpost of the Lord’s house. Hannah was very sad. She wept and wept. She prayed to the Lord.”

“Hannah walked over to the tabernacle and prayed to God. Her prayer is recorded for us in the Bible. Check it out:”

(Reads from 1 Samuel 1:11 NIV) "Lord, you rule over all. Please see how I'm suffering! Show concern for me! Don't forget about me! Please give me a son! If you do, I'll give him back to the Lord. Then he will serve the Lord all the days of his life . . ."

"Hannah put her situation in God's hands. And after she left the tabernacle, she had something to eat, and it says that she was no longer sad. Now, nothing had changed yet, but it was like she knew that God would hear her . . . and she trusted that God would do something about her situation."

"Hannah's family traveled back home from Shiloh, and God blessed Hannah. After all her waiting . . . after years and years of sadness and trouble . . . *(points to the plastic bottle hourglass that has run out of sand)*, the waiting was finally over!"

"Check it out! *(pointing into the empty bottle)* Let's read what 1 Samuel 1:20 says. *(Read directly from 1 Samuel 1:20, NIV) 'So after some time, Hannah became pregnant. She had a baby boy. She said, "I asked the Lord for him." She named him Samuel.'"*

"The wait was over! And Hannah ended up doing exactly what she said she would do. Once Samuel had grown some, she brought him back to God's house. This is what she said, *(Read directly from 1 Samuel 1:27-28, NIV) "I prayed for this child. The Lord has given me what I asked him for. So now I'm giving him to the Lord. As long as he lives he'll be given to the Lord.'"*

"God ends up using Samuel to do many great things . . . including leading the nation of Israel out of some really dark times."

APPLICATION

COMMUNICATOR: "Isn't that a great story?! But more than just being a good story, Hannah helps us understand what it can look like to wait even when it is REALLY hard. We're so used to everything being so instant. We can microwave our food if we don't want to wait for it to cook in the oven. Put it in . . . close the door . . . 30 seconds and DING! Warm food. We search for something on the Internet and immediately millions of answers pop up. This wasn't always the case—just ask your parents about dial-up internet sometime! But in our world, we get so used to getting everything right away that we have a really tough time when what we're waiting for seems like it's taking forever. Hannah struggled, for sure, but she also was able to trust God that He could help her while she was waiting."

"The things we wait for might not be as serious as what Hannah was waiting for, but it doesn't mean that we can't trust God to give us the strength and the patience we need while we wait, right?"

"Remember that even though waiting can be hard, it matters HOW we wait. We can trust God to give us strength to wait and to help us treat others well WHILE we wait."

LANDING

COMMUNICATOR: "Alright, now, as you head to small group, I want to give you a chance to consider what this looks like in your own life . . . so think about this as you head to your group: When is it hard to have patience?"

CG: Key Question Slide

“After your group has shared some of your answers, talk about what you can do WHILE you wait . . . and how you can trust God more! Before we head out though, let’s pray.”

Communicator leads group in a prayer related to what they just heard. After prayer, Communicator dismisses kids to Small Group.

SFX: Play high-energy music as the kids exit.