



GETTING READY

1. Welcome/Opener

What You Need:

- Host
- 8 Popsicles

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:

- Have slushies (or popsicles) ready backstage in a cooler for the Host to bring on stage.
- Have cups of room-temperature water (or small water bottles) for each contestant to fight against brain freeze

2. Communicator Script

What You Need:

- Communicator
- Two chairs on stage
- Inflated balloon (*Optional*) something to pop it
- Suitcase

- Bike horn
- Two pairs of goggles
- “Impatient Dog Waiting on Owner Video” (either downloaded or ready to play/display from YouTube)
- “Impatient Truck Under a Train Video” (either downloaded or ready to play/display from YouTube)

Music and Sound Effects (SFX):

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

Large Group Visuals:

- Key Question Slide
- Video: Dog Honking Horn (See “What You Do” below)
- Video: Impatient Truck (See “What You Do” below)

What You Do:

- Google “Impatient Dog Waiting on Owner Video” and “Impatient Truck Under a Train Video.” Be prepared to play them during the Tension.

3. Worship

What You Need:

- Every Beat
- Sons And Daughters

Are We There Yet?

Bible Story: Are We There Yet? (A Patience Proverb) * *Proverbs 14:29*

Bottom Line: When you think you can't wait, keep your cool.

Key Question: What do you do 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

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, 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 today. Quick question: how many of you get accused of being *fast eaters*? Maybe at the dinner table your mom or dad is always telling you to slow down. Or you scarf down your PB&J before everybody else at your lunch table. If that describes you, then this game is for you! I need three (*or number of slushies*) volunteers!"

Host chooses volunteers and brings them up to the stage.

"Alright, the goal of the game is to finish first, which sounds like normally wouldn't be a problem for you. But let's just say that you might find this one to be a little more challenging than normal . . ."

Host goes offstage and brings slushies out.

"A nice, refreshing, ice-cold slushie! That's right! The first one to finish it wins."

Host gives each volunteer a slushie and a straw.

"Now, if you need them, we have cups of water to fight the dreaded brain freeze . . . OK, here we go! Ready, set . . . GULP THOSE SLUSHIES!!"

Host comments throughout and encourages them to drink faster but not so fast that they get sick.

(After a winner) “That looked painful! What a challenge for these fast eaters! Thanks for playing. Let’s all stand and worship together!”

Worship

WORSHIP LEADER: “Yes, let’s get ready to sing in worship. I am so thankful for the life and freedom we’ve been given. C’mon, let’s celebrate Jesus is alive in us.”

SFX: “*Every Beat*”

SFX: “*Sons and Daughters*”

Storyteller enters as Worship Leaders exit.

COMMUNICATOR SCRIPT

INTRODUCTION

COMMUNICATOR: “Hey, everyone! Great to see you all. Man, I feel like I have brain freeze just from watching that game! You guys were awesome!”

“If you’ve been around this month, you know that we’ve been talking about what the Bible has to say about patience, which I don’t know about you guys, but I have a LOT to learn about. Having patience is just hard sometimes!”

“Like, take the grocery store, for example. I’m sure you all know what I’m talking about. You run in with your mom or dad just to grab a couple quick things. You get what you need and head to the checkout lines. Express lane, yes! 10 items or less? No problem! But then you see . . . a big problem. Because there in front of you is a person with WAY MORE than 10 items. Bags are overflowing . . . the scanner can’t keep up . . . THEN they need a price check because they thought one of their items was on sale. And you’re all . . . *(Exasperated)* ‘PLEASE JUST LET ME PAY FOR MY MILK AND EGGS AND GOOOOOOO!’”

TENSION

COMMUNICATOR: “And that’s just one example. I’m sure you can think of a ton of other places where you have to wait for someone or something. And when those moments happen, sure, sometimes we wait patiently. But what about the times where we’re not so patient? What about the times when we get frustrated with people and snap at them? Or we decide to cut in front of others in line just to get done more quickly? Maybe we lose our tempers and just flat out fail at patience . . . kind of like this . . .”

CG: Dog Honking Horn Video

“Now that’s funny! It’s funny because it’s a dog honking the horn at their owner. It’s less funny when it is one of us honking the horn because we’re tired of waiting, right? But what about if our impatience . . . well . . . wrecks something? Check this out:

CG: Impatient Truck Video

“Oh, man! That guy was like, ‘I’M SICK OF WAITING FOR THIS TRAIN!’ But now he’s going to be waiting for someone to flip his truck over and fix it! Thirty more seconds and this all could have been avoided!”

“Now, maybe not like THAT, but do you ever have moments when losing your temper ends up wrecking stuff? Maybe you don’t wreck physical stuff, but maybe you damage relationships or your reputation . . . losing our tempers can affect us and the people around us in all sorts of ways. This can’t be a great way for us to live, though, right? But what can we do about it? Waiting is SO HARD!”

TRUTH

COMMUNICATOR: “When we have questions like that, a great place to start looking for answers is the Bible. King Solomon was one of the wisest people who ever lived. He wrote down a whole lot of that wisdom in the Book of Proverbs. These wise sayings give us an idea for how we can live wise lives in God’s eyes. Several of these proverbs talk about patience. Like this one we find in Proverbs 14:29:

(Read directly from Proverbs 14:29, NIV) ‘Anyone who is patient has great understanding. But anyone who gets angry quickly shows how foolish they are.’

“Pretty short and sweet, right? But those two sentences pack a lot of truth and show us the difference between someone who is patient in a situation and someone who, well, is not so much.”

“But what does this mean for us in our lives? I mean, this verse was written thousands of years ago. Does it still mean something for us today? Let’s find out! I need a couple volunteers.”

Communicator chooses a couple kids and brings them up on stage.

“Alright, so our theme this month is Road Trip: Some Things are Worth the Wait. And so, let’s send you on a road trip! Fellas, *(pointing at the two seats on stage)* hop on into the backseat of the car.”

“You are just about to head out on this sweet road trip to *(add a popular destination a few hours away)*. Your dad is about to pull out of the driveway when . . .”

Communicator hands a balloon to one of the volunteers. After waiting a couple seconds, the Communicator leans over and pops the balloon.

“. . . POP! The car runs over a stray nail. Ugh! The worst, right?! This will delay your trip by at least a half-hour—maybe more! Can your car even drive all that distance on a tiny-spare tire?!”

“Obviously, no one is happy with this situation. What could it look like for you to get angry in this situation?”

Let volunteers share. They might need some encouragement to throw a temper tantrum of some sort.

“Okay, well, that’s something . . . let’s try another option. What might it look like for you to show patience in this situation?”

Let volunteers share.

“If we get angry at the popped car tire, what do we do, according to the proverb? *(Pause for response.)* Sure! We show how foolish we are. But if we’re patient and help to fix the tire, what are we doing, according to the proverb? *(Pause for response.)* Yes, we show that we have great understanding!”

“Alright, so the spare tire is on and the car is ready to go. You’re not moving as quickly as you would if you had a real tire, but at least you’re moving, right? But then as you drive a mere fifteen minutes down the road, all of the sudden, your dad realizes that he never put the suitcase in the trunk! So *(to kids)*, what could it look like if you got angry at this situation?”

Let volunteers share.

“Woah. Okay, now what would it look like to show patience in this situation?”

Let volunteers share.

“By getting angry at your dad for forgetting the suitcase, what do we do, according to the proverb? We show how foolish we are. But by being patient and realizing that it could happen to anyone, what do we do, according to the proverb? We have great understanding!”

“Let’s keep driving! After a little bit of a detour to head back and get the rogue suitcase (*Communicator puts suitcase next to the volunteers*), the road trip is back in action. You guys are cruising down the road and making great time when all of the sudden you start to see the red brake lights up ahead. Everybody is stopping. There is a massive line of traffic ahead of you. Looks like a truck has tried to sneak under the back of a train and has tipped over. Everybody is yelling out of his or her windows. There is even a dog honking the horn! (*Note: These references will only make sense if you show the two videos above.*)

So (*to volunteers*), what would it look like to get angry in this situation?”

Let volunteers share. Hand the bike horn to one of the volunteers. Let them honk it a few times.

“Okay, now what would it look like to show patience in this situation?”

Let volunteers share.

“By getting angry and joining in with everybody else yelling and honking . . . by now I think you know that it makes us what? (*Pause for response.*) Exactly—look foolish. But if we decide to wait patiently for the tow truck to clear the road, we . . . (*Pause for response.*) YES! Show what we have great understanding!”

“Okay, the impatient truck finally gets tipped back over and cleared out of the way. You have the suitcases. You have four working tires. You finally get to the hotel! After dropping off your stuff in the room, you throw on your swimsuits and head down to the hotel pool. (*Put goggles on the volunteers.*) Swimming . . . yes! But as you reach for the door to the pool, it’s locked. And then you read the sign: – ‘Pool closed for cleaning. Will reopen tomorrow.’ NO!!!!!”

One last time (*to volunteers*), what would it look like to get angry in this situation?”

Let volunteers share.

“Okay, now what would it look like to show patience in this situation?”

Let volunteers share.

“You all are totally getting this. If we get super angry that the pool is closed, we just look like we’re silly and foolish. But if we keep clear heads and find something else to do until the next day when the pool reopens, we let others know that we have great understanding!”

“Give our volunteers a hand!”

APPLICATION

COMMUNICATOR: “All of us have been in situations like this before. Okay, maybe not EXACTLY like that, but we know the feeling, right? We have this idea of how things are going to go and they don’t quite go that way. Something interrupts us or delays us or sidetracks us. We end up waiting . . . and waiting . . . and waiting . . . and we feel ourselves starting to get angry that we’re waiting. And we find ourselves getting angrier the longer we wait. We get more and more upset until we . . . POP! And like the car tire, we explode!”

“If this has ever happened to you, you’ve probably experienced something the moment AFTER you have exploded. You look around . . . you see how people are looking at you. You might think about what you just said or did. And you feel . . . foolish. Just like the proverb, right? Our impatience and anger leads to us feeling AND looking foolish. But when we let God’s strength work in us and we ask God for help when we know we’re getting angry, we find that we don’t lose our temper so easily. When that happens, we show great understanding. People will notice that, too, because it is rare. That means they will also notice God IN us. Our patience brings glory to God. I think that is pretty cool.”

LANDING

COMMUNICATOR: “We will always have to wait for something or someone. And in order to show patience in those moments, we need a plan. You’ll talk more about that in small group, but as you head there, think about how you wait right now. Think about this question:

CG: Key Question Slide

“What do you do when it’s hard to wait? Share about times you have been patient and times you have been . . . not so patient. It’s the first step in figuring out what you can do when finding patience is hard. But before we head out, let’s pray and ask God for help with this.”

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.