



WEEK THREE - APRIL 2018 - KINDERGARTEN/FIRST

Bible Story: *Are We There Yet • Proverbs 14:29*

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

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 later for what you want now*

Basic Truth: *I can trust God no matter what*

Summary: There's an important patience principle King Solomon wrote in **Proverbs 14:29**. Anyone who is patient has great understanding. But anyone who gets angry quickly shows how foolish they are (NIrV). How we respond to waiting shows others our character. Getting frustrated and angry doesn't make the wait any less; it just makes us look foolish

Bottom Line: Sometimes when you're waiting, becoming angry and frustrated with others is the first thing that pops into our minds. But when it comes to waiting, often there's very little we can do to make the wait any less. While you're waiting, don't make yourself look foolish by taking it out on the people around you.

8:50-9:00 | 10:20-10:30 | 11:50-12:00 - EARLY ARRIVERS ACTIVITIES

1. Early Arriver Idea

Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding

What You Need: N/A

What You Do:

- Ask: "When it's really hot outside, what do you like to do to get cool? (go swimming, play in the sprinkler, have a water balloon fight, take a cool bath, sit in front of a fan, drink something cold, etc.)"

2. Keep Your Cool

Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding

What You Need: "Keep Your Cool" Activity Cards

What You Do:

- Guide kids to get into groups of two or three.
- Give each group two sets of cards.
- You can adjust the number of picture pairs you give each group based on the kids' skill level. Younger kids might be able to handle six pairs while older kids might master eight.
- Lead kids to set the cards face down in a grid. (Don't worry if a grid is wonky. The fact that the kids arranged the cards themselves means that a lot of brain cells were firing!)
- Guide kids to take turns flipping over two cards at a time, Concentration™-style, to find a match.
- Decrease competition by instructing kids to take only one turn at a time, regardless of whether or not they make a match.

What You Say:

"What pictures do you see on your cards? (a sprinkler, a pool, an iced drink, etc.) What do all those things have in common? (They're all things that help us cool down when we're hot.) Yes, they all help you keep cool."

*"There's another meaning for the phrase, 'Keep your cool.' Do you know what it is? (Pause.) Yes, to 'keep your cool' means to keep yourself from getting angry quickly. **Let's go to Large Group and hear what the Bible says about keeping our cool.**"*

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

9:10-9:45 | 10:40-11:15 | 12:10-12:45 - LARGE GROUP

OVERVIEW:

Bottom Line: *When you think you can't wait, keep your cool." Having a plan for your impatience is important. Rather than just letting your frustration get to you, you can know the steps you can take to make sure that you don't lose your cool. We want kids to discover how they can make patience a priority.*

9:45-10:05 | 11:15-11:35 | 12:45-1:05 SMALL GROUP

1. Thumbs Up, Thumbs Down

[Talk about God | Bible Story Review]

Imagine: an activity that promotes empathy & facilitates biblical application through reenactment

What You Need: Bible; "Great Understanding or Foolishness?" Activity Page

What You Do:

- Invite a volunteer to open the Bible to Proverbs 14:29. Read the verse aloud.
- Unpack the phrase "great understanding," explaining that a person who is patient shows that he or she is very wise.
- Read the scenarios on the Activity Page.
- Guide kids to decide if the child in the scenario practiced patience or got angry quickly.
 - If the child showed patience, direct kids to stand and give two "thumbs up."
 - If the child got angry quickly, lead them to squat and give two "thumbs down."
- After the game, lead kids to brainstorm what the kids who got angry quickly could have done to keep their cool. Ask prompting questions as necessary to spur the kids' thinking.
- Finally, encourage kids to tell one thing they'll do this week to practice patience and show "great understanding." They might suggest praying, walking away from a situation, taking a few deep breaths, singing a song in their heads, or thinking about a Bible verse. (Note: Younger kids may need you to ask prompting questions to help them along.)

What You Say:

*"Each of you can have great understanding. It doesn't matter if you're young. If you have patience and don't get angry quickly, the Bible says that you have more understanding than a grown-up who knows a lot but acts silly when he can't wait. So remember: **when you think you can't wait, keep your cool.**"*

2. Pray and Dismiss

[Prayer Activity]

Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application

What You Need: N/A

What You Do:

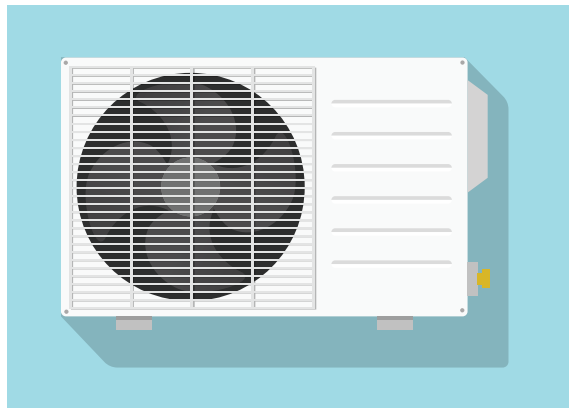
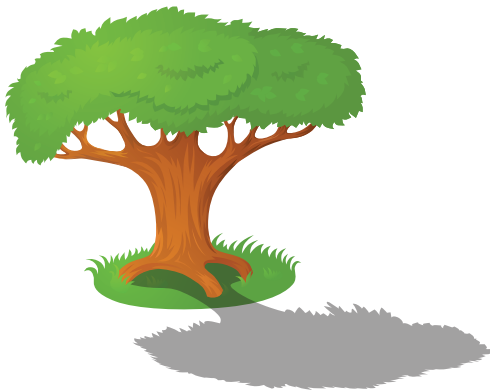
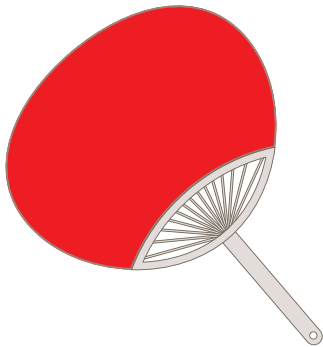
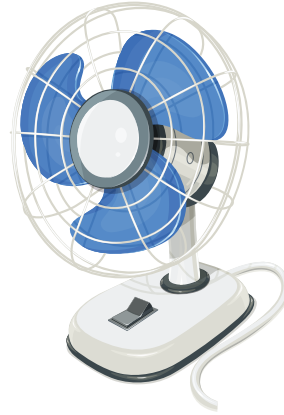
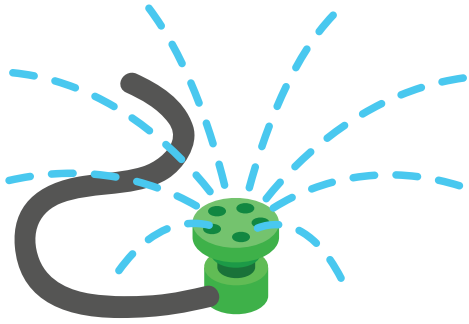
- Guide kids to gather around you.
- Briefly review and then quote Proverbs 14:29.
- Ask prompting questions if needed to help kids make the connection.

What You Say:

*"Proverbs 14:29 tells us: Anyone who is patient has great understanding, but anyone who gets angry quickly shows how foolish they are (NIV). So when you're tempted to get angry quickly, **WAIT**, take a few deep breaths (lead kids to do so), get by yourself if you need to, and ask God to help you be patient. Because when you're patient, you show others what God is like, and that's a **REALLY** good thing! Let's pray.*

"Dear God, thank You for being patient with us, even when we sometimes get angry quickly. Please help us learn to keep our cool by being patient. Thank You, God, for always hearing our prayers and helping us. We love you very much. Amen."

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage kids to echo Proverbs 14:29 after you. Break the verse into two, three, or four phrases depending on the level of your kids.



What to Do:

Print two copies on cardstock and cut apart. Make one set for every two kids.

Keep Your Cool

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- Syrus is waiting to play a video game, but his sister keeps playing and playing and playing, even though she knows he's waiting. He finally loses his patience and grabs the game controller away from her.
- Liam is on a car trip with his family. He's really hungry, but his dad says it'll be a while before they stop to eat. To pass the time, Liam looks at books.
- Harper's family is at a restaurant, and it's taking a long time for their food to come. She whines, "Mooohhm, when is our food getting here? I'm starving!"
- Denzel is coloring a picture at school. He asks to borrow the red crayon from a friend. His friend tries to give it to him, but another boy snatches it away. Denzel gets angry and grabs the crayon back.
- Savannah's soccer team lost their game . . . again. They haven't won a game all season! Savannah prays and asks God to help her have a good attitude.
- Donovan's sister ate the last cookie and it was supposed to be his. He takes a deep breath and says a quick prayer, thanking God that he has a sister (even if she eats his cookies!).
- Shavonne is in line for the most awesome carnival ride ever when suddenly a kid cuts in front of her. She yells, "Hey, no cutting!," and pushes him.
- Michael is playing a game with a classmate when they move their token to the wrong space. He yells, "No fair! You cheated!," and grabs their token off the board.
- You're at the park with a friend when a neighbor starts teasing you. You turn to your friend and say, "Let's go play someplace else."

What to Do:

Print one copy for each Small Group.

Great Understanding or Foolishness?

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