



## GETTING READY

### 1. Opener/Closer

#### What You Need:

- Host
- Three Matchbox®-sized cars
- Three folded paper maps
- Various items to represent speed bumps and landmarks; any toy that represents something that could be found on a road or trip (dollhouse, action figures, stuffed animals, other cars, plastic trees, etc.)
- 4x8 sheet of plywood (facilities may have something for us to use)
- Painter's tape
- Thick black marker

#### Music and Sound Effects (SFX):

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

#### Large Group Visuals (downloadable from the website):

- Road Trip Slide
- Patience Slide
- Bottom Line Slide

#### What You Do:

- Tape a “START” line and a “FINISH” line on the plywood with painter’s tape. Write the words “START” and “FINISH” on the tape.
- Between the “START” and “FINISH” lines, place random speed bumps and landmarks.

## 2. Bible Story

### What You Need:

- Storyteller
- Bible
- Six traffic cones (borrowed from the parking team or purchased), like these:  
<http://amzn.to/2CDxUTf>
- Baby doll
- Bassinette/crib (real or fake)
- Blanket
- START and FINISH tape lines from the Opener

*Large Group Visuals (downloadable from the website):*

- Bottom Line Slide

### What You Do:

- Set up the baby doll in the bassinette/crib at the FINISH line.

## 3. Worship

- 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.

**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**

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 welcomes kids as they enter.*

**HOST:** "Hey, friends! My name is [Host's name], and I am so glad you're hanging out with us. If you're excited about having an awesome time together, look at your neighbor and say, 'It's about to get crazy up in here.'"

**HOST and KIDS:** "It's about to get crazy up in here."

**KIDS:** "It is! We've got games, we've got music, and we've got stories. Let's check out our Life App for this month. It's a tricky one, I'm telling you. I'll be the first to tell you that this Life App, well, it's a little hard for some people. It's hard for ME sometimes! Let's read it together."

**CG:** *Patience Slide*

**HOST and KIDS:** "Patience is waiting until later for what you want now."

**HOST:** "Try it again!"

**HOST and KIDS:** "Patience is waiting until later for what you want now."

**HOST:** "Waiting until LATER for something you want NOW? That doesn't sound fun, does it? Nooooo! But patience is important, because some things are worth the wait."

**SFX:** *Upbeat game music*

*(Hold your hand to your ear.)* "And we don't have to wait for our game to start, because the time is now! Let me get three of you up here who want to play."

*Bring three kids up on stage and introduce them.*

*(To audience)* “Raise your hand if you already look forward to the day you can drive a car. *(Survey the audience.)* Okay, okay. Some of you are in for a really, really long wait. You’ll have to show LOTS of patience between now and the age you can drive. But until then, we can practice our road trip skills with today’s game. It’s called ‘Fan Finish,’ and here’s how you play.

*Give each contestant a map and a car. Move them to the START line.*

*(To contestants)* “Each of you gets your own car and your own map. Only, instead of using the map for directions, you’re going to use it to ‘fan’ your car from the START *(indicate line)* to the FINISH line *(indicate line)*. You can’t use anything else. No touching your car with your hands or the map or anything! You can only use the air created from waving your map-fan.

“You may have to show some patience on our track, however, as there are a few *(indicate speed bumps and landmarks)* speed bumps and landmarks to navigate around. If you run into one, OR if you run into another car, you have to go back to the start!

“The first car to reach the finish is our ‘Fan Finish’ winner.

*(To audience)* “Audience, I need you to be cheering as loud as possible for all three cars! *(To contestants)* Contestants, are you ready? Let’s do this! Ready, set, FAN TO THE FINISH!

*During the game, encourage crowd participation by cheering and announcing the progress of the cars. If you need to spice up the race a bit more, you can increase the difficulty by adding additional items to the track. When the first car finishes, end the game.*

“[Winner’s name], you won ‘Fan Finish’ today! *(To audience)* Let’s give all of our contestants a big hand. You all were great drivers!

*Lead applause and dismiss contestants to their seats.*

“Now let’s stand up and SING to our God who loves us!”

*Worship Leaders enter as Host exits.*

## **Worship**

### **WORSHIP LEADER:**

**SFX: “We Are Royals”**

**SFX: “Through It All”**

*Storyteller enters. Worship Leaders set up the baby doll in the bassinet/crib by the FINISH line and then exit.*

## **SETTING UP THE STORY**

**STORYTELLER:** “Hey, hey, hey, everyone!

*Pick up the Bible and walk to the START line.*

“You know what I love about the Bible? Well, I love a lot of things about it, but one thing I REALLY love is that we can read stories about some of the bravest, strongest, most amazing people ever! And we get to talk about one of those people today.

“Her name was Hannah. And Hannah was pretty awesome. In fact, she was really awesome. She showed so much patience—CRAZY amounts of patience! We can read about Hannah and her husband in the book of 1 Samuel. (*Hold up Bible.*)

“When we meet Hannah, things weren’t going so well for her.”

### **HANNAH IS TEASED**

*Place one cone on the ground and take a step toward the finish line.*

“In fact, Hannah was being teased. Do you know what it means to be teased? It’s when someone makes fun of you or says things that hurt your feelings. Raise your hand if you’ve ever been teased before. (*Raise your hand.*) I’ve been teased before, too. And it doesn’t feel very good, does it? Well, it didn’t feel very good to Hannah, either.

“The woman who was teasing Hannah was named Peninnah. Here’s why she did it. Listen to this.

*Open the Bible to 1 Samuel 1:6-7 and read.*

*“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 (NirV).*

“Isn’t that just SO mean? Peninnah made fun of Hannah because Hannah and her husband hadn’t been able to have a baby together.

*Place one cone on the ground and take a step toward the FINISH line.*

“And Hannah WANTED a baby. She wanted a baby so, so badly. She wanted a baby so badly that sometimes she wouldn’t eat for a long time because she was so sad. She would cry and cry and cry.”

### **HANNAH PRAYS AND ELI SEES**

**STORYTELLER:** “But Hannah had hope. She had hope that God would one day give her a son. So she prayed.

“One day, Hannah prayed to God. Listen to what she said.

*Open the Bible to 1 Samuel 1:11 and read.*

*“LORD, you rule over all. Please see how I’m suffering! . . . Please give me a son!” (NirV).*

“Hannah told God that if He gave her a son, she would make sure the boy grew up hearing about and loving God.

*Place one cone on the ground and take a step toward the FINISH line.*

“Hannah wasn’t alone when she prayed this prayer. There was a priest—a man who worked in God’s house where Hannah was praying. His name was Eli. And Eli saw Hannah praying.

“Hannah was praying so hard that Eli thought something might be wrong with her. He went over to her and asked her what was going on.

*“I was telling the LORD all my troubles, she told him (1 Samuel 1:15 NIV).”*

*Place one cone on the ground and take a step toward the FINISH line.*

She continued: *“I’ve been praying here because I’m very sad. My pain is so great (1 Samuel 1:16 NIV).”*

*Place one cone on the ground and take a step toward the FINISH line.*

### **HANNAH HAS A BABY**

**STORYTELLER:** “Eli looked at Hannah, and he saw her patience. He saw how much she wanted what she was praying for. So he said, ‘Go in peace. May God give you what you asked for’ (1 Samuel 1:17 paraphrase).

“Then . . . guess what happened. Guess!

*Place the last cone on the ground and cross the FINISH line. Pick up the baby doll (with the blanket) from the crib.*

“Hannah had a baby. She did! She had a baby boy named Samuel. And just like she promised, she raised Samuel to know and love God.”

### **WRAPPING UP THE STORY**

*Walk back to the START line.*

**STORYTELLER:** “Look at all these cones.

*Walk from the START to the FINISH line while talking.*

“Each of these cones represents PATIENCE. They represent a time Hannah had to wait on what she wanted. She had to wait a long, long, long, long, LONG time. But she still talked to God. She knew that

she didn't have to wait alone. She knew she could tell God how she was feeling, and she knew that He would care.

"Our Bottom Line today says this.

**CG: Bottom Line Slide**

**[Bottom Line]** "When you think you can't wait, talk to God about it. Can you say that with me?"

**KIDS and STORYTELLER: [Bottom Line]** "When you think you can't wait, talk to God about it."

**STORYTELLER:** "Hannah knew that she could trust God through all the waiting. You and I can do that too. We can trust God while we're waiting for something we really want. **[Basic Truth] We can trust God no matter what!** We know we can always talk to Him, and He'll be there to help us.

"Let's pray."

**Pray**

**STORYTELLER:** "God, thank You for the gift of prayer. Thank You that we can talk to You about anything, anytime, anywhere we are. You hear us, and You love us. Please help us to be like Hannah. Please help us to talk to You when things are good, when things aren't so good, and in those times when we need patience. We love You, and we ask these things in Jesus' name, amen."

*Storyteller exits. Host enters.*

**Closer**

**HOST:** "Raise your hand if you've ever really, really, really wanted something. Maybe you even prayed for it. (*Raise your hand.*) I've really, really wanted something, too. Not knowing whether or not it will happen can make your stomach feel kind of yucky. It can make you sad or scared.

"And that's exactly how Hannah felt. She wanted a baby more than anything! But she was patient—even when it was hard and she was so, so sad. She found a way to be patient even when others were making fun of her. She decided to talk to God about it. She didn't give up. Hannah showed patience, because she knew some things are worth the wait.

"Now, I want to ask you a serious question. In today's story, Hannah got what she wanted, right? She got a son. What happens when we DON'T get what we want? What happens when our grandma stays sick? When our parents do get divorced? When there isn't enough money? When we can't find any friends? What do we do then?

"We talk to God. That's what He wants us to do—continue to talk to Him and trust that He loves us and that He is taking care of us. Here's the one thing we need to remember today.

**CG: Bottom Line Slide**

**[Bottom Line]** "When you think you can't wait, talk to God about it. I'm so glad that we can always talk to God about anything! And now it's time for you to head back to your small group and talk some more about that. I'll see you later!"

*Dismiss kids to their small groups.*

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