



GETTING READY

1. Opener/Closer

What You Need:

- Host
- All male Small Group Leaders
- Disposable plastic cup (like a Solo® cup) filled and packed with flour
- Sturdy paper plate
- Plastic knife
- Cherry
- Table
- Host's phone
- Wet washcloth

Music and Sound Effects (SFX):

- Upbeat music to use as kids enter and exit the room
- Fun music (suggestion: "Raise the Game" instrumental by Orange Kids Music)

Large Group Visuals:

- Theme Slide
- Life App Slide
- Blank Bottom Line Slide
- Bottom Line Slide
- Blank Memory Verse Slide
- Memory Verse Slide
- Fruit of the Spirit Slide Week 4 (with Patience highlighted)

Optional Videos (available for purchase through the 252 Media Package):

- Theme Loop
- Countdown (30- or 60-second version)
- Theme
- Theme Transition to Life App

- Life App Transition to Theme

What You Do:

- Set the game supplies on the table, with the flour pre-packed into the cup.

2. Bible Story

What You Need:

- Storyteller
- Bible

Large Group Visuals:

- Blank Bottom Line Slide
- Bottom Line Slide
- Comic Book Slides #1-7

3. Worship

What You Need:

- Never Gonna Stop
- Wide Open

Right Here Waiting

Bible Story: Right Here Waiting (Simeon at the Temple) • *Luke 2:22-35*

Bottom Line: When you need to wait, ask God for patience.

Memory Verse: *The fruit the Holy Spirit produces is love, joy and peace. It is being patient, kind and good. It is being faithful and gentle and having control of oneself.* Galatians 5:22-23a, NIV

Life App: Life App—What God is doing in you to change the world around you

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: Theme Slide

Optional Video (Media Package): Theme Loop

Host enters.

Optional Video (Media Package): Countdown (30- or 60-second version)

Optional Video (Media Package): Theme

Opener

HOST: “Hi, everyone! It’s great to see you. This summer we’re taking a look at Life Apps to see how God wants us to live.

CG: Life App Slide

Optional Video (Media Package): Theme Transition to Life App

“A Life App is what God is doing in you to change the world around you.

CG: Theme Slide

Optional Video (Media Package): Life App Transition to Theme

“Let’s face it—choosing to live God’s way isn’t always easy. We might not always FEEL like it. That’s why we need to power up with the Holy Spirit.

“We definitely need the Spirit to help us with this one: patience.

CG: Fruit of the Spirit Slide Week 4 (with Patience highlighted)

“Patience is what the apostle Paul called a fruit of the Spirit. The Spirit can help us be patient and wait even when we’re waiting for something we really want!

CG: Theme Slide

“We’ve been playing some fruit games to remind us to power up with the fruit of the Spirit. And I’ve got another fun one for you today. Are you ready for it? Let’s play ‘Tower of Flour’! Let me get all of our guy Small Group Leaders to join me on the stage. That’s right—just the guys!

SFX: Fun music (suggestion: “Raise the Game” instrumental by Orange Kids Music)

As the male Leaders are coming to the stage, go over to the table with the game props: cup of flour, paper plate, cherry, and plastic knife. Put the paper plate over the top of the cup and then flip both over so the cup is upside down on top of the plate.

“All right, everyone. Check this out. Presenting the Tower of Flour . . . with a cherry on top!

*Slowly remove the cup so it leaves a “tower of flour” on the plate.
Gently place the cherry on top of the tower.*

“In just a moment, I’ll use this plastic knife to shave off part of the side of this tower. The plastic knife must cut away some of the flour from the top of the tower all the way to the bottom WITHOUT making the tower fall. As soon as I’m done with my cut, I’ll pass the plastic knife to the next person.

“Whoever is holding the plastic knife when the tower falls has to get the cherry out of the pile of flour . . . using only their LIPS!

(To contestants) “Contestants, are you ready? Let’s begin!

Begin playing the game while commenting on the action.

(When the tower falls) “Uh-oh! [Leader’s name], you know what that means. It’s time for you to get in there and get that cherry . . . with your eyes closed . . . and no hands! *(To audience)* Do you think he can do it? Cheer if you think he can. *(Pause for response.) (To Leader)* All right, [Leader’s name]. We’re all behind you. Get that cherry. Three, two, one, GO!

SFX: Fun music (suggestion: “Raise the Game” instrumental by Orange Kids Music)

Cheer for the Leader as he digs for the cherry. If it’s taking too long, let him open his eyes.

(When the Leader gets the cherry.) “That was EPIC! [Leader’s name], I can’t believe you actually found the cherry! You look awesome, by the way. Let me get a picture.

Take a selfie with the Leader.

“Let’s give [Leader’s name] and all our Leaders a big hand.

Dismiss Leaders to their seats. Give the finalist a wet washcloth so he can clean up.

“And now you can all welcome our worship leaders, because it’s time for us to sing and worship God together.”

Announcements

Use this as an example of what to say. Make it your own and help the kids feel welcomed. Then take a moment to share any/all announcements.

HOST: “I’m so excited to be here with all of you today and get a little crazy! If it’s your first time here, I want to welcome you and I would love to have a chance to meet you and get a high-five! Your group leaders are here almost every week... they’re pretty amazing. Here at Mission, we believe that this is a place for you and you belong here no matter who you are or what you believe. At the core of who we are as a church, we believe that **JESUS CHANGES EVERYTHING FOR EVERYONE!**

“I have just a few announcements for you all today...”

Share any/all announcements.

“One of the things we do each week to help us focus on God is to sing... some of you will know the words to the songs, so we want you to shout and sing them out really loud. If you don’t know the words... they’ll be on the screen for you. Feel free to clap, jump, sing and shout along with us! The best part about this is the message of the song and how good God is! Let’s all stand up and sing together!”

Worship Leaders enter. Host exits.

Worship

WORSHIP LEADER: “Thank you, [Name of Host]. Let’s get up and get loud as we sing and dance for who God is and what he’s done for us!

Never Gonna Stop

WORSHIP LEADER: “That was amazing! (*Take a moment to say something about the next song*). So let’s give everything we have and worship God together!

Wide Open

Communicator enters as Worship Leaders exit.

CG: Theme Slide

SETTING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: “Hey, everyone! Like [Host’s name] told you earlier, today is all about patience. Raise your hand if you ever have a tough time being patient. *(Raise your hand.)* I know I do. It can be hard for me to wait for things like dinner, my birthday, or something fun I have planned with my family.

“I definitely need God’s help to be patient. The great thing is, I know I can power up with His Holy Spirit! Remember, when Jesus returned to heaven after God raised Him to life, God sent the Holy Spirit to live in the hearts of people who decide to follow Jesus.

“But God’s Spirit had already been active since the very beginning—even before Jesus was born. We see that when we read the stories in the Bible about creation and about Gideon, Samson, King David, and others. *(Hold up Bible.)* Later, years before the birth of Jesus, God’s Spirit spoke to a faithful man named Simeon.”

CG: Comic Book Slide #1 (young Simeon)

THE WAITING GAME

STORYTELLER: “Simeon was a good and godly man. He loved God very much, and he did his very best to follow God’s rules. Simeon knew that God had promised to send a Savior to rescue His people. He was waiting for God’s promise to come true.

“One day, the Spirit told Simeon that he would not die before he had a chance to see this Savior. Simeon was very, very excited about this promise!

CG: Comic Book Slide #2 (young Simeon giving a thumbs-up)

“Simeon was a very patient man. He spent some time waiting. *(Dramatically)* And THEN . . .

CG: Comic Book Slide #3 (older Simeon)

“. . . nothing happened. No Savior yet. But surely God would send Him soon, right? So Simeon waited a little while longer. *(Dramatically)* And THEN . . .

CG: Comic Book Slide #4 (even older Simeon)

“. . . still nothing. Still, Simeon knew what God had promised him. He waited patiently for it to happen. We don’t know exactly how long he waited, but it must have been a long time.”

CG: Comic Book Slide #5 (even older Simeon)

TODAY'S THE DAY

STORYTELLER: “One day, after ALL those years of waiting, God’s Spirit prompted Simeon to go to the temple courtyard. The courtyard would have been busy with lots of people coming and going.

“Here’s where it gets really good. Guess who showed up that day—right there in front of Simeon? *(Pause for response.)*”

CG: Comic Book Slide #6 (Mary, Joseph, and Jesus in the temple courtyard)

“Yes! Mary, Joseph, and Jesus! Mary and Joseph had brought their new little boy to the temple to be dedicated to God.”

IT'S REALLY HIM!

STORYTELLER: “When Simeon saw them in the courtyard, he KNEW that Jesus was the Savior—the One God had promised! Think about what that must have been like for Simeon. He had waited years and years and years for this moment. He took Jesus in his arms and praised God.

CG: Comic Book Slide #7 (Simeon holding Jesus)

“He said this.

Open the Bible to Luke 2:29-31 (NirV) and read.

“Lord, you are the King over all. Now let me, your servant, go in peace. That is what you promised. My eyes have seen your salvation. You have prepared it in the sight of all nations.”

“Simeon was saying that God would make the whole world right again through Jesus. He told Mary that Jesus would cause many in Israel to rise and fall, and people would speak against Him. Simeon told Mary that her soul would be wounded, too.

“Mary and Joseph were amazed by everything Simeon said. Simeon really believed that Jesus was the Savior. Sure enough, God had allowed him to see Jesus, just like the Spirit had promised.”

CG: Blank Bottom Line Slide

WRAPPING UP THE STORY

STORYTELLER: “In that moment, Simeon must have felt such a deep sense of peace and joy in his heart. Though some of the words God had given him were difficult, every moment of his patient waiting had paid off! He had been able to actually meet Jesus—the baby who would one day rescue the whole world.

“Simeon was patient, and we can be, too. We just need to remember who to ask! God can give us patience when we need to wait. He can help us power up with His Holy Spirit.

CG: Bottom Line Slide

“Remember: **[Bottom Line] When you need to wait, ask God for patience.**”

“Let’s pray.”

CG: Blank Bottom Line Slide

Pray

STORYTELLER: “Thank You, God, for the story of Simeon. Thank You for giving Him patience when he had to wait. Please help us to be patient like him. Help us to wait on You and to remember to ask You for help when we need it. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name, amen.”

Host enters as Storyteller exits.

Closer

HOST: “Patience can be hard for us. We want everything right now! But if we ask God for patience, He can help us when we have to wait.

“Think about Simeon. God gave him an amazing promise, but Simeon had to wait almost his whole life for that promise to come true. And sure enough, he got to actually SEE Jesus, the Savior of the world!

“Just like any fruit has to grow before it’s good to eat, patience needs time to grow in you. It’s something you learn over time. The good news is that you don’t just have to find your own patience. You can ask God for it.

CG: Bottom Line Slide

[Bottom Line] “When you need to wait, ask God for patience.

“So the next time you have to wait your turn in line, the next time you have to wait soooooo long for Christmas or your birthday to come, or the next time you’re super hungry or thirsty and you think you just can’t wait another second, sometimes all you need to do is just talk to God. He can help you slow down and wait.

“Remember, patience is a fruit of the Spirit. It’s something the Spirit does in us. Let’s look at our memory verse for this month, Galatians 5:22-23.

CG: Blank Memory Verse Slide

CG: Memory Verse Slide

“The fruit the Holy Spirit produces is love, joy and peace. It is being patient, kind and good. It is being faithful and gentle and having control of oneself, Galatians 5:22-23a (NIRV).

“It’s so cool to know that God can help us be patient. He knows that it can be hard for us to wait. That’s why we need to remember to talk to Him about it. He knows what’s best for us. **[Basic Truth] We can trust Him no matter what!**

“Now it’s time for you to head to Small Group and talk some more about how God can help you be patient!”

Dismiss kids to their small groups.

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

CG: Theme Slide

Optional Video (Media Package): Theme Loop