



## WEEK FOUR – JUNE 2019 – KINDER/FIRST

**Bible Story:** *Right Here Waiting* • 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:** *What God is doing in you to change the world around you*

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

**Summary:** In Luke 2:22–35 we read about Simeon. God promised Simeon that he would live to see the Messiah. While we’re not sure how long he waited, he must have been so excited when the Holy Spirit led him into the temple courtyard where Simeon saw Mary and Joseph with Jesus! God’s promises were true, and seeing Jesus was worth the wait!

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## EARLY ARRIVERS ACTIVITIES

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### 1. Early Arriver Idea

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

**What You Need:** Dum–Dums

**What You Do:**

- Ask: “Have you ever had to wait a looong time for something you really wanted? What was it? Was it hard to wait?”
- Let each child choose a candy.
- Tell kids that if they wait and don’t eat their candy now, they can choose two more pieces during Prayer!

### 2. Baby, Baby

*Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group*

**What You Need:** “Baby, Baby” Activity Pages; baby dolls and clothes; dice

**What You Do:**

- Divide the group into teams of three or four.
- Give each team a baby doll, a set of clothes, a die, and an Activity Page.
- Tell teams that at your signal, they’ll roll their dice.
- Each number they roll corresponds to a piece of clothing. Guide kids to point to the numbers and pictures on the Activity Page as you explain.
  - One: onesie
  - Two: socks
  - Three: shirt
  - Four: pants
  - Five: hat
  - Six: blanket
- When they roll a number, they put that piece of clothing on their baby doll.
  - The catch: teams must roll each number in order. They have to wait until they roll a one and then they can put on the onesie. Then they keep rolling until they get a two, when they can put on the socks, and so on

**What You Say:**

*“Was it hard to wait until you rolled each number in order? [Transition] In our Bible story today, we’ll hear about a man who waited a long, long time for a VERY special baby. Let’s go learn more.”*

*Lead your group to the Large Group area.*

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## LARGE GROUP

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### OVERVIEW:

**Bottom Line:** *When you need to wait, ask God for patience. We all face moments where we’ll find it difficult to have patience. From waiting in line to get a seat at your favorite restaurant to sitting in construction traffic on your way to vacation, how can you have patience when you just want to get a move on? We pray that kids will start with prayer and ask God for help. God can give us patience in any situation!*

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## SMALL GROUP

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### 1. Patience Puzzle

#### [Bible Story Review]

*Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group*

**What You Need:** Prepared “Patience Puzzles” (Activity Pages)

#### What You Do:

- Help each child find a partner. If you have an odd number of kids, form a group of three.
- Give each group a puzzle.
- At your signal of “green light,” teams work together to assemble the puzzles.
- As they work, randomly call out “red light” (the kids must freeze), “yellow light” (the kids must move in slow motion), and “green light” (the kids may work at normal speed).
- When all groups finish, invite kids to describe what’s happening in the picture.

#### What You Say:

*“Simeon made a regular habit of talking with God and listening to what He said. He spent time in the temple, too, listening to God’s promises. One day, God’s Spirit gave Simeon a strong, clear promise. God told Simeon that he wouldn’t die before he saw the Messiah, the Savior.*

*“And even though he had to wait a LONG time, Simeon trusted God’s promise. And one day, his patience paid off. He found himself looking into the dark, bright eyes of a little baby held lovingly in his mother’s arms. Simeon was looking into the eyes of baby Jesus, God’s Savior! Wow! God kept His promise!”*

*“Does God always keep His promises? Yes, God always, always, always, always keeps His promises. Sometimes, like Simeon, we may have to wait a long time for them to come true, but **[Bottom Line] when you need to wait, ask God for patience.** He’ll help you. And remember, whatever God promises is true!”*

## 2. Patience Pong

### [Memory Verse Activity]

*Move: an activity that increases the oxygen in the brain and taps into the energy in the body*

**What You Need:** “Memory Verse Strips” (Activity Pages) inside cups, ping-pong balls

### What You Do:

- Divide the group into teams of three or four.
- Guide teams to line up.
- Place a set of five cups in a five-spot pattern (like you would see on a die) three to six feet from each team. (Make it a shorter distance for younger kids; farther for older.)
- Give each team five ping-pong balls.
- At your signal, kids take turns attempting to toss the balls into the cups, one ball per cup.
  - Depending on the skill of your group, allow each child one to three attempts. If it seems to be taking too long for kids to get the balls in cups, let them stand a little closer to the cups.
- If a team lands two balls in the same cup, they must remove one of the balls.
- When a team successfully lands a ball in each cup, kids remove the Bible verse strips and work together to put them in order.
  - *TIP: If other teams are still playing, they can cheer them on or help retrieve “renegade” balls.*
- When every team is finished, read the verse aloud with the kids.

### What You Say:

*“You guys did a great job being patient. You kept going until you got a ball in each cup. Way to go!”*

*“When are some times it’s hard for you to be patient? (Pause.) Is it hard to be patient when you have to wait in line or wait for your turn? (Pause.) Is it hard to wait for food when you’re REALLY hungry? (Pause.) Is it hard to wait for something that you really want? (Pause.)”*

*“There are lots of times when we need to wait for things, and learning to be patient takes time. Who can help you learn to be patient? (Pause.) Yes, God can! That’s the one thing to remember today. **[Bottom Line]** When you need to wait, ask God for patience. He loves you, and He’ll help!”*

### **3. Pray and Dismiss**

#### **[Prayer Activity]**

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

**What You Need:** Candies from earlier

#### **What You Do:**

- Use the conversation below to lead kids into prayer.

#### **What You Say:**

*“Sometimes waiting can be hard! What are some things you can do to help you wait patiently? (Sing, dance, play a game, draw or color, talk with a friend, read, or look at a book.) More than anything else, WHO can help you be patient? Yes! God can. And when you believe in Jesus, you have God’s Holy Spirit to help you be patient.*

*“So, no matter what you’re waiting for, talk to God about it. He loves you, so tell Him how you feel. He can help you have peace, and He can help you be patient. Let’s pray.”*

*(Lead kids in prayer, asking God to help the kids be patient even when it’s hard. Thank Him for His love and for His Holy Spirit, Who helps us. Then allow kids who didn’t eat their candy to choose two more pieces. Praise them for their patience!)*

***As adults arrive to pick up, encourage kids to tell parents one thing they will do that can help them wait patiently. Remind each child that **[Bottom Line]** when you need to wait, ask God for patience. He loves you, and He’ll help!***