



3-5 YEAR OLDS

TODAY'S SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

BIBLE STORY

Jesus can help me choose patience.

SIMEON AT THE TEMPLE LUKE 2:22-39

MEMORY VERSE

"I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength."

PHILIPPIANS 4:13, NLT

KEY QUESTION

Who can help you do everything?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus can help me do everything.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

PRELUDE: Setting the tone for the experience

See the **Getting Ready** pages at the end of this document for a detailed description of what you'll need for today.

In the **Prelude** folder of your curriculum, you'll find a variety of other resources to help you prepare.

SMALL GROUP

15 MIN

SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

Offer one or more of these activities as preschoolers arrive.

Pool Noodle Lacing
Wait-Your-Turn Board Games
Find the Baby

LARGE GROUP

20 MIN

WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

"Making Waves" and "We Are Friends" Bible Story Prayer

SMALL GROUP

25 MIN

GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

Offer as many of these activities as your time, facilities, resources, and leadership allow.

Color-by-Number Verse Stack the Story Spoon Game Musical Chairs Growing Patience Journal and Prayer

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

Going Home Parent Cue Card (*print or email*) Parent Cue App



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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

10 MINUTES

BIBLE STORY

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LARGE GROUP

ENGAGE CHILDREN'S HEARTS THROUGH A DYNAMIC AND INTERACTIVE WORSHIP, BIBLE STORY, AND PRAYER EXPERIENCE IN A LARGE GROUP SETTING.

NOTE: Kids and leaders will need a Clock Story Sticker from the "Clock Story Stickers" Activity Page to participate in the story. Consider handing these out as small groups enter the Large Group environment.

WORSHIP

WHAT YOU NEED: Paperclip "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible at Philippians 4:13, NLT. You need a music player and this month's worship song, "Making Waves," which is included in your monthly files. The dance moves video for "Making Waves" is available on OrangeKidsMusic.com or in your media package if you subscribe. You also need "We Are Friends," which is available on the Very Big Things album on iTunes®, Spotify®, and OrangeKidsMusic.com. The dance moves video for this song is available on OrangeKidsMusic.com.

WORSHIP LEADER: "Welcome, friends! Guess what time it is? Worship time! This is your chance to tell God you love Him so, so much, because God sent His only Son, Jesus, to be our friend forever. Jesus is the best because Jesus wants to be my friend forever. There is no better friend than Jesus. He can help us do everything! Who can help you do everything?"

CHILDREN AND WORSHIP LEADER: "Jesus can help me do everything."

WORSHIP LEADER: "You've got it! Jesus can help us make waves when we choose love, joy, peace, and patience! Patience is a hard one, and we'll talk more about that today. But first, let's sing this song together."

Lead children in singing "Making Waves," this month's worship song.

"That's such a fun song! Thanks for singing with me, friends. Do you remember our memory verse for this month? Let's say it together."

Lead the children to say the verse along with the motions.

CHILDREN AND WORSHIP LEADER: "'I can (thumbs to chest) do everything (march) through Christ (point up), who gives me strength,' (muscle arms) Philippians 4:13." (Open hands like a book.)

WORSHIP LEADER: "That's right! Jesus can give us strength because **Jesus** can help me do everything. Who can help you do everything?"



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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

10 MINUTES

CHILDREN AND WORSHIP LEADER: "Jesus can help me do everything.

Lead children in singing "We Are Friends."

"Jesus is always there, taking care of you and me! He is our forever friend!"

INTRO SKETCH

WHAT YOU NEED: "Clock Story Stickers" Activity Page; Avery® #5294 labels or equivalent; small table; beach bucket; purple paint pen; rock; small fishbowl; water; seashells; fish food or pretend container of fish food; toy fish; and analog clock with numbers on face

Host enters, wearing a clock sticker in the middle of their shirt. They carry the prepared fishbowl and fish food container.

HOST: "Hi, friends! I'm [your name]. Meet my new friend . . . Nemo! (Talk to the toy fish.) Say, 'Hi,' Nemo. (Hold the bowl to your ear like you're listening to the fish.) Aww. Nemo says he likes you!

Place the fishbowl on the table.

"I got Nemo to remind me of our trip to the beach. See? (*Point to shells.*) I even put shells in his bowl like at the beach. (*Hold up the fish food.*) This is Nemo's special fish food. It's so much fun to feed him and watch him eat! I can't wait to show you!

Place the food beside the fishbowl.

"But I can't feed him yet. If you feed a fish too much, they get sick."

Pick up the clock and show it to the children.

"I have to wait until both hands get HERE (Point to the twelve.) to feed Nemo. That is soooooo long!

Tap fingers on the table while watching the clock. Then pace back and forth while watching the clock. Start looking through the beach bucket while still holding the clock. Then pick up the rock with the clock painted on it and show it to the children.

"Look! This rock has a clock painted on it. Now I have two clocks. One that tells what time it is (hold clock up) and one painted on this rock. (Hold up rock.) I wonder if having two clocks will make the time go by any faster. Waiting is SOOOO hard!

"I'll put this clock rock right here. (Set the clock where everyone can see it.) And I'll put this clock on the table. (Set the painted rock on the table.)

"I'll be back after the Bible story. Maybe THEN it will be time for me to feed Nemo. (*Talk to fish.*) Nemo, I'll be right back. Don't go anywhere. (*Talk to children.*) See you soon! Bye!"



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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

10 MINUTES

Host exits, leaving the beach bucket on the floor by the table and the fishbowl and clock rock on the table.

STORY

WHAT YOU NEED: Bible and table from Intro Sketch, Optional Story Images

Storyteller enters, carrying a Bible and wearing a clock story sticker.

STORYTELLER: "Hello, friends! My name is [your name]. I have a great story today about something called patience. Patience is choosing a happy heart when you're waiting for something.

"Have you ever had to wait a long time for something? Maybe you've had to wait to open a present at Christmas or you've had to wait to eat. Or have you waited a long time to ride a fun ride? If you've ever had to wait for something, today's story is for you.

"Hey, I see we have the same sticker, again. See? (*Point to clock sticker.*) I have a clock sticker, just like you. That means we can play our game while I tell you the story! This time, every time I say 'PATIENT' or 'PATIENCE,' I want us to point to our clock stickers. (*Point to clock sticker.*) Ready? Here we go!

"Okay like I said, our story is about PATIENCE. (Point to sticker.) It's a true story from the Bible.

Hold up the Bible for the children to see then lay it open on the table by the clock rock.

"It's about a man named Simeon. Simeon loved God, and he knew that God was sending someone very special.

(Option: Display Story Image W4 01)

"God told Simeon that he would get to see this very special person. But Simeon didn't know WHEN this very special person would come. He had to be PATIENT (point to sticker) and wait.

(Begin tapping your foot.) "And wait.

(Option: Display Story Image W4 02)

"And wait, and wait, and wait . . . and wait! Simeon chose to be PATIENT. (*Point to sticker.*) He didn't whine and say (*in whiny voice*), 'This is taking too long,' or 'When will it be over.'

"Instead, Simeon chose to be PATIENT (point to sticker) and wait with a happy heart.

"Then one day, just like God said, Mary and Joseph brought Baby Jesus to the temple. Jesus was the very special person Simeon was waiting to see!

(Option: Display Story Image W4 03)



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PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

10 MINUTES

"Wow, God's Son, Jesus, was finally here! Jesus had come to be our friend forever. And when Jesus is your friend forever, He helps you choose to be PATIENT. (*Point to sticker.*)

(Option: Display Story Image W4 04)

"Like when you want to tell your mom something, but she's on the phone. Jesus can help you choose to be PATIENT (point to sticker) and wait with a smile. When there's a long line at the bouncy house and you have to wait your turn, Jesus can help you choose to be PATIENT (point to sticker) and make a new friend. When you have a long car ride and you're ready to get out of the car, Jesus can help you choose to be PATIENT (point to sticker) and sing a song.

"Jesus can help you choose PATIENCE (point to sticker) because Jesus can help you do everything! Who can help you do everything?"

CHILDREN AND STORYTELLER: "Jesus can help me do everything!"

STORYTELLER: "Now say it slowly. Who can help you do everything?"

CHILDREN AND STORYTELLER: "Jesus can help me do everything!"

STORYTELLER: "Okay, friends, it's time to pray. Let's close our eyes and talk to God together."

PRAYER

STORYTELLER: "Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus to help us choose patience, even when we have to wait a really long time. Help us think of other things we can do while we wait instead of complaining and whining. We love You, God. In Jesus' name, amen.

"Thanks for listening, friends. I'll see you next time. Bye!"

The Storyteller exits with the Bible.

OUTRO SKETCH

WHAT YOU NEED: Painted clock rock

The Host enters, still wearing the clock sticker.

HOST: "Wow! Simeon waited PATIENTLY (point to clock sticker) for a very long time to see Jesus. Waiting is hard, but Jesus can help me choose PATIENCE (point to sticker), and PATIENCE (point to sticker) can change the world!

"I think I got the story. Did you get it? (Pause.) If you did, give me two thumbs-up (hold up two thumbs) and say, 'Got it!' (Pause.) Get it?"

CHILDREN AND HOST: "Got it!"

HOST: "Good!

Host picks up the clock rock and looks at it for a few seconds.





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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

10 MINUTES

"This clock rock can help me remember to choose PATIENCE (point to sticker) when I have to wait for something.

Look over at the clock.

"Oh! It's time to feed Nemo! Yay, I can feed him now!

Pretend to sprinkle fish food in the bowl and watch the fish eat.

"Oooh . . . Nemo is eating the food with his cute little mouth."

Pick up the fishbowl and slowly exit while talking to the fish.

"Look at you go! Yum, yum, yum.

Look at the children.

"Bye friends! See you next time!"