



WEEK
FOUR
JUNE 2022

SMALL GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS

PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY GROUPS HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO PLAY

an activity that encourages preschoolers to follow guidelines while having fun and learning new concepts



WAIT-YOUR-TURN BOARD GAMES

WHAT YOU NEED: Two or three common preschool games such as Simon says or red light green light

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Make sure you are familiar with the game rules in case you need to explain how to play

BIBLE STORY

Jesus can help me choose patience.

SIMEON AT THE TEMPLE
LUKE 2:22-39

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage the children to play the games together with one child leading.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Let's play some games! Remember, you have to be patient and wait your turn if you want to be the leader."

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "It's not always easy to wait your turn! You have to be patient. We'll learn about someone who can help us have patience in our Bible story today. Follow me!"

MEMORY VERSE

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

PHILIPPIANS 4:13, NLT

TRANSITION: Move to Worship and Story by calling for children to stop at various times along the way as you count to a certain number then lead them to walk again. Remind children that waiting requires patience! For the first round, count to 10, then 20, then 30, and so on.

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 SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY **GROUPS** HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO THINK

an advanced activity specifically designed for older preschoolers



SPOON GAME

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Plastic spoons; pom poms; and paper bowls

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: At each seat, place five spoons side by side with one bowl on both sides of the spoons. Place three pom poms in the bowl on the left of each spoon row.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to scoop up a pom pom with the first spoon and transfer it to the second spoon and put it back in line. Pick up the second spoon with the pom pom in it and transfer it to the third spoon. Keep going spoon by spoon until the pom pom is in the last spoon then transfer it into the bowl on the right. Repeat with the second and third pom poms. See who can do it correctly the fastest. *Option:* Get the three pom poms from left to right then right to left.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Talk about how you had to have patience moving the pom poms with the spoon.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Friends, come find a seat at the table and put your hands in your lap. (Pause.) I have a super fun game today that will help us with patience."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Okay, to play this game, you will take the first spoon and scoop a pom pom from your bowl. (Demonstrate.) Everyone, let's do it together one time. Pick up that first spoon next to the bowl with the pom poms. (Pause.) Use the spoon to scoop up one pom pom and place the pom pom on the second spoon. (Pause.) Put the first spoon back and pick up the second spoon with the pom pom on it. (Pause.) Now put the pom pom on the third spoon. (Pause.) Put the second spoon down and pick up the third spoon with the pom pom on it. (Pause.) Put the pom pom on the fourth spoon. (Pause.) Put the third spoon down and pick up the fourth spoon with the pom pom on it. (Pause.)

"Put the pom pom on the fifth spoon. (Pause.) Put the fourth spoon down and pick up the fifth spoon with the pom pom on it. (Pause.) Now put the pom pom into the empty bowl. (Pause.) Put the fifth spoon down. (Pause.) When I say, 'Go,' do the same thing you just did with the other two pom poms. Ready? Go! (Pause.) Wow! Great job! You used a lot of patience during that game!"

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "It could have been easy to get frustrated, but you worked hard and concentrated to move the pom poms. You showed a lot of patience getting them from one bowl to the other. When Jesus is your friend, He helps you be patient. Jesus can help you choose patience. Jesus can help you do everything. **Who can help you do everything? Jesus can help me do everything.**"

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."

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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO CREATE
an activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible story, bottom line, or memory verse by creating a craft to take home



GROWING PATIENCE

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Growing Patience Parent Note" Activity Page; cardstock; clear punch cups; potting soil; bird seed or grass seed; large serving spoons; plastic spoons; masking tape; scissors; spray bottles; water; plastic zipper bags; permanent marker; and plastic tablecloth(s)

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LUKE 2:22-39

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WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Copy "Growing Patience Parent Note" on cardstock and cut apart, one per child. Write each child's name on a piece of tape and stick it to the bottom of their cup. Fill the spray bottles with water. Cover the table(s) with tablecloth(s) for easier clean-up.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Encourage children to fill their cups 2/3 full of soil with spoons. Sprinkle in a spoonful of bird seed or grass seed. Cover with a little more soil. Let children spray the soil in their cup with a little water. Put each cup inside a plastic zipper bag and set it aside with the Parent Note.

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: Review the Bible story.

WHAT YOU SAY:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: "Today, we heard how Simeon had a lot of patience. He was waiting to meet the special person God was sending. He was waiting to meet Jesus."

DURING THE ACTIVITY: "Have you ever had to wait for something? (Pause.) Maybe it was a turn on the slide or waiting in line to buy groceries at the store? We have to have patience, and when Jesus is our friend, He can help us choose patience. Let's plant some seeds to take home and watch grow."

"Take your cup and fill it to here (*point to a spot on a cup*) with the soil. (Pause.) Now take a spoonful of the seeds and sprinkle them on top of the soil. (Pause.) Okay, add a little more soil to lightly cover the seeds. (Pause.) Good job. What do plants need to grow? (Pause.) That's right! They need sun and water. Let's give your seeds a spray of water. (Pause.) Super! When you take these home today, find a nice sunny spot for them and remember to give them little drinks of water. You have to be patient, and pretty soon the seeds will grow." (*Help children put their cups inside plastic bags.*)

AFTER THE ACTIVITY: "Simeon loved God and knew He was sending someone very special. God told Simeon that he would get to see this special person. But Simeon didn't know when this very special person would come. He just had to be patient and wait. And wait. And wait. Then one day, just like God promised, Mary and Joseph brought baby Jesus to the Temple. Jesus was the special person he had been waiting for. God's Son, Jesus, was finally here. He had come to be our friend forever! Jesus can help us choose patience. Jesus can help us do everything. **Who can help you do everything? Jesus can help me do everything.**"





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PRELUDE SOCIAL WORSHIP STORY **GROUPS** HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that encourages personal application and prayer



JOURNAL AND PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Memory Verse Card" paperclipped in Bible at Philippians 4:13; journal, fun-shaped pen; and reward stickers or handstamp

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): "It's Small Group time!

Today, we'll pretend to hold Baby Jesus while we walk to our Small Group spot. Hold your arms like this (*demonstrate holding a baby*) and walk very gently. Here we go. Follow me! (*Pretend to cradle Baby Jesus in your arms as you lead the children to your Small Group spot.*)

"Whew! We made it without waking Baby Jesus. Let's lay Him down gently and sit down so we can talk about today's Bible story. One, two, three, sit down with me! (*Open the Bible and lay it in front of the children.*)

"In today's Bible story, a man named Simeon had to wait for something a very long time. What was Simeon waiting for? (*Pause.*) Yes! Simeon was waiting to see Jesus! What did Simeon choose that helped him wait with a happy heart? (*Pause.*) Right again! Simeon chose patience.

"And guess what! Jesus can help us choose patience, too, because Jesus can help us do everything! **Who can help you do everything?"**

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

SGL: "And the Bible verse we have learned will help us remember that. It says . . . (*Turn the pages of your Bible to the Memory Verse Card.*) 'I can do everything through Christ, who gives me strength,' Philippians 4:13. (*Close Bible and lay it down.*)

"Let's stand up and say that together one time with the motions, then anyone who wants to say it can have a turn."

CHILDREN AND SGL: "'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.*)

SGL: "You sound ready to me! (*Give two thumbs-up.*) Now you can sit down. Anyone who wants to say the verse can give it a try. I have my [stickers/handstamp] ready! (*Give each child the opportunity to try to say the Bible verse.*)

"Yay, [child's name]! Here is your [sticker/handstamp]! (*Repeat with each child as they try to say the Bible verse.*)

BIBLE STORY

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PRELUDE

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GROUPS

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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

(JOURNAL AND PRAYER, CONTINUED)

"Okay everyone, when I count to three, I want you to stand up and show me your [sticker/handstamp]. One, two, three! *(Pause to look.)* Yay! *(Give fist bumps to the children.)*

"Now let's sit down so we can write in our prayer journal and talk to God. *(Hold journal and fun-shaped pen.)*

"Today, we'll make a list of things that are hard to wait for like your birthday or Christmas or dinner. After we make our list, we can use it when we talk to God. So tell me, what do you think is really hard to wait for, [child's name]? *(Say each child's name as you write it down. Write what they say beside their name. Remember to print so the children can recognize their names and the letters.)*

"Thanks for making this list with me. Would anyone like to pray before I do?"

(Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.)

PRAYER

SGL: "Dear God, waiting can be so hard sometimes. We want to choose patience and wait with a happy heart like Simeon did. Please help [child's name] wait for [what child listed] with a happy heart. *(Continue with each child.)* Waiting on Your plan will always be best. We love You, God. In Jesus' name, amen."