



WEEK
ONE
APRIL 2024

SMALL GROUP
PRETEEN

PRELUDE SOCIAL STORY WORSHIP GROUPS HOME

CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO CONNECT

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



3. DISCUSSION QUESTIONS
[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]
WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:
Ask:

- In what ways was Jesus an example of patience?
- Why is it harder to be patient with certain people than with others?
- If you know that someone is difficult for you to be around without losing your patience, what can you do to prepare yourself ahead of time so you don't react by saying or doing something you know you shouldn't?

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

The Waiting
A Patience Proverb
Proverbs 14:29

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

When is it hard to have patience?

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Waiting can make you wise.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

"Wait for the Lord. Be strong and don't lose hope. Wait for the Lord."
Psalm 27:14, NIV

MONTHLY VIRTUE

Patience—Waiting until later for what you want now

BASIC TRUTH

I need to make the wise choice.



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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
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MADE TO EXPLORE

an activity that extends learning through hands on experimentation and discovery



4. VERSES TO TAKE WITH YOU
[HEAR FROM GOD | MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: Bibles, pens, scissors, "Patience Sandwich" Activity Page

WHAT YOU DO:

- Give each kid a Bible.
- Direct kids to look up and read Psalm 27:14 using the Bible Navigations tips below.

***Finding verses with 4th-5th graders:** Our verse is from Psalms. Ask kids to tell you whether that's in the Old Testament or the New Testament. (Old) So we know it's toward the front of the Bible then near the middle. When they find Psalms, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Tell them to find chapter 27. Explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Tell them to then find verse 14 in chapter 27.*

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

The Waiting
A Patience Proverb
Proverbs 14:29

- Give each kid a "Patience Sandwich" Activity Page and a pen.
- Ask kids to write out the first line of the verse on the top of the sandwich, the next part in the middle, and the last portion on the bottom bun.
- Invite kids to explain if they would agree or disagree with the following statements and why:
 - Waiting for the Lord means sitting and praying or reading your Bible. (We should always talk to God and learn what the Bible teaches us, but we can actively wait for the Lord by using our waiting time to do something kind and show God's love through our actions.)
 - Patient is a gift from God's Spirit. When we follow Jesus, we can grow in patience. If you agree, what are some ways we learn to be patient? (ask God's help, take a deep breath to give yourself time to respond wisely, pray for the person or problem that is annoying you)
- Give each kid a pair of scissors.
- Ask kids to fold their paper into thirds (this doesn't need to be exact).
- Direct kids to unfold their paper and cut along both lines of the folds, stopping about 1-inch from the top on both sides of the paper (again, this doesn't need to be exact).
- Tell kids to hold one edge of their paper in their left hand and the other edge in their right hand.
- Explain that when you say, "Go," kids will pull their paper apart on the two sides to create three separate pieces.
- Ask the kids to predict where they think the middle section of paper will land on the floor. (Note: This is a trick question since the papers will most likely only tear into two pieces and nothing will fall to the floor.)
- Say, "Go," and direct kids to pull apart their papers.
- Ask:
 - Did you expect the middle of the paper to fall? Were you surprised that it didn't?

TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

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(4. VERSES TO TAKE WITH YOU, CONTINUED)

- Sometimes things don't go exactly as we expect or want them to go. Situations like that can make us feel impatient. When that happens, what can you do that will help you be strong and not lose hope?
- Recite Psalm 27:14 together one more time to help everyone remember it.
- Encourage kids when they begin to lose patience this week to remember to take a slow breath and say a quick prayer. It will give them time to think about what they should say and do. Remind them that they have the power to make a situation better instead of worse.



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MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application



5. MAKE IT PERSONAL WITH PRAYER

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed

WHAT YOU DO:

- Teach kids the signs for WAIT and WISE.
- WISE – <https://bit.ly/3RwWJYL>



TODAY'S BIBLE STORY

The Waiting
A Patience Proverb
Proverbs 14:29

- WAIT – <https://bit.ly/3RQGNSs>



TODAY'S KEY QUESTION

When is it hard to have patience?

- Allow kids to practice the signs a few times.
- As you close in prayer, invite kids to respond with the appropriate sign whenever you say the words WISE or WAIT (or WAITING).

TODAY'S BOTTOM LINE

Waiting can make you wise.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"Dear God, You know how hard it is sometimes for us to WAIT. We get impatient when we must WAIT in line, WAIT for dinner, or WAIT for our turn in a game. We ask that You help us make WISE responses and not foolish reactions that hurt others and us. Give us the ability to WAIT for You with patience for the things we want now. Remind us this week that WAITING can make us WISE.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

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MONTHLY VIRTUE

Patience—Waiting until later for what you want now

BASIC TRUTH

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