



Kids Club

Leader Guide

Aug.

Week 1

August 4, 2024

SUPPLIES NEEDED:

Optional: (2) Beanbags, (2) Spoons, (2) ping pong balls/easter eggs

Coloring supplies/Construction paper per kid

Charades Situations

Fruit of the Spirit Words

SUGGESTED SCHEDULE:

5 minutes - Pick up kids/kids arrive - bathroom, wash hands, water break

20 minutes - Snack, Games, Prayer/Devotion, Quality Time, Clean-up

30-40 minutes - RBKids Lesson & Prayer

10-15 minutes - Free time, Clean-up and Dismissal

TODAY'S FOCUS:

God gives us patience.

MEMORY VERSE:

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control." - Galatians 5:22-23a

KEY PASSAGE:

James 5:7-11, Patience in Suffering

ROCK BRIDGE MISSION:

As an expression of our love for God and others, we wait with joyful attitudes because we know that God's timing is always best.

PRAYER:

God, help us to understand the importance of patience and give us strength to wait for Your perfect timing in our lives.

INTRODUCTION:

AS KIDS ARRIVE: Start with a discussion about times when they have had to wait for something. Discuss how waiting can be hard but sometimes necessary. Explain that patience is also important when we face challenges or difficulties. Define patience as "waiting with a good attitude and trusting God's plan." If you have any age-appropriate stories to tell about the positive outcome of waiting on God's timing in your life, please share it with your kids!

INTRO: Ask kids to imagine themselves in a few of the **charades situations** as you read them aloud. Let them share how they would respond. Ask what is the most challenging thing for them to wait for?

READ: Read James 5:7-11 aloud together. Discuss the example of farmers waiting patiently for their crops and how we can learn from their patience in our own lives.

SAY: In James 5:7-11, it talks about the importance of patience, especially during difficult times. It compares our lives to those of farmers who patiently wait for their crops to grow, trusting that the rains will come at the right time. Just like the farmers, God wants us to trust Him and His timing in our lives.

Patience isn't just about waiting quietly; it's also about having a good attitude while we wait. Sometimes, waiting can be hard. Maybe you're waiting for something special, like a birthday or a holiday. Or maybe you're waiting for a tough situation to get better, like a friend who's upset with you or a challenge at school.

But here's the good news: God promises that He is always with us, and He is working behind the scenes, even when we can't see it. When we trust God and have patience, it helps us grow stronger in our faith and closer to Him.

Now, let's talk about how this is showing up in your lives right now. How are you handling having to wait for things? When has waiting with patience paid off for you? How can remembering God's promises help us when we're feeling impatient?

MAIN POINT - SAY THIS: Imagine you have a fruit tree in your backyard. When you first plant the tree, it's small, right? It doesn't have any fruit on it yet. But

over time, as you take care of it—watering it, giving it sunlight, and making sure it's healthy—something amazing starts to happen.

After a while, tiny buds appear on the branches. These buds eventually turn into flowers. And from those flowers, fruit begins to grow—apples or oranges or whatever kind of fruit your tree gives. But here's the thing: that fruit doesn't just appear overnight. It takes time. The tree has to go through different seasons—spring for growing, summer for ripening, and fall for harvesting.

Now, think about how this is like us growing the fruit of the Spirit in our lives. The Bible tells us that one of the fruits of the Spirit is patience. Just like how a fruit tree needs time to grow and produce fruit, we need time and experiences to grow patience in our hearts.

Sometimes, God allows us to go through situations that test us—maybe waiting for something we really want or dealing with something that's hard for us. These situations are like the seasons for our patience. They help us see if we're getting better at being patient and trusting God's timing.

So, just like you can't rush a fruit tree to grow fruit faster than it's supposed to, we can't rush ourselves to be patient overnight. It's a process. But as we keep trusting God and asking Him to help us, we'll see ourselves growing in patience, little by little, just like the fruit on a tree.

Remember, God is always with us, helping us grow the fruit of the Spirit in our lives. Let's ask Him to help us be patient, even when it's hard, and trust that He's making us stronger and closer to Him through it all.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

ASK THIS:

1. Why is patience important in our relationship with God and others?
2. What are some things that can help us be patient when we are waiting for something?
3. When are some times when you had to wait for something and it turned out to be worth the wait?

Thank the kids for sharing their stories (highlight their patience as they listened well to others and waited their turn to speak!). Emphasize that God gives us patience through His Spirit, and when we trust Him, He helps us wait with a good attitude. Encourage the kids to practice patience and trust God's timing in their lives. Open up prayer for kids to be specific about how they can ask God to help them understand His wisdom in times of suffering and to give us patience to trust His plan.

ACTIVITY:

DO THIS: Play "Patience Charades" by having kids take turns acting out different scenarios where someone might need patience, while others guess what they are portraying. Let the kids pair up to act out some of the scenarios on the [Charades Situations](#) list.

Discuss why patience was needed in each situation. Emphasize how patience shows respect for others, helps us stay calm, and teaches us to trust God's timing in our lives.

Variation: For older kids, you can also include scenarios that require emotional patience, such as waiting for news about a loved one, waiting for someone to apologize, or waiting for a difficult situation to improve.

ACTIVITY 2:

DO THIS: Give each kid a sheet of construction paper. Ask them to fold it in half and use it to write or draw about patience. Let them decorate the front as desired. On the left side, write times they have had to be patient and on the right side, write the outcomes of their patience. Remind them that God never changes so they can use this to reflect on God's faithfulness and to help them remember to be patient.

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:

DO THIS: Play a memory verse game with Galatians 5:22-23a. Have all kids stand in a circle and spread the [Fruit of the Spirit Words](#) facedown in the middle of the circle. Send one kid to the grab a card from the middle of the circle. They read the card (Joy!) and then pass the card as quickly as possible to the person

on their left with each kid saying the fruit on the card aloud when they have it in their hand. Send another kid to grab the next one and repeat until every kid has said all 9 fruit!

OPTIONAL ACTIVITY 3:

DO THIS: Play "Patience Relay." Divide kids into teams and set up a relay race where each team member has to complete a task (like balancing a bean bag on their head, or walking with a plastic egg on a spoon) before tagging the next person to do it. Each team member must wait for their turn and cheer on their teammates without rushing or getting frustrated. This activity not only promotes teamwork and coordination but also teaches children the value of patience and encouragement.

Patience Charades Scenarios!

Cut out the examples and let kids choose one to act out alone or in a pair.

Scenarios for Younger Kids:

- Waiting in line at the grocery store.
- Waiting for a turn to play a game.
- Waiting for a sibling to finish using the bathroom.
- Waiting for a rainy day to stop so they can play outside.
- Waiting for a friend to come over.
- Waiting for a long car ride to end.
- Waiting for a teacher to explain something in class.
- Waiting for a cake to bake in the oven.
- Waiting for a bandage to be put on a wound.
- Waiting in line at the amusement park.
- Waiting for a bus or train to arrive.
- Waiting for a parent to finish a phone call.
- Waiting for a sibling to finish their turn with a toy.
- Waiting for a teacher to answer a question in class.
- Waiting for a friend to tie their shoes before playing.
- Waiting for a video to load on a slow internet connection.
- Waiting for a parent to finish cooking dinner.
- Waiting for a turn during a game.
- Waiting for a delivery to arrive at home.
- Waiting for a rainy day to clear up to go outside.
- Waiting for a parent to read them a bedtime story.
- Waiting for a pet to learn a new trick.
- Waiting for a birthday or holiday celebration to begin.

Patience Charades Scenarios!

Scenarios for Older Kids (including emotional patience):

Cut out the examples and let kids choose one to act out alone or in a pair.

- Waiting for news about a family member who is in the hospital.
- Waiting for a friend to apologize after an argument.
- Waiting for someone to finish speaking before responding.
- Waiting for a difficult situation at school to improve.
- Waiting for a sports team to recover from a losing streak.
- Waiting for a family member to return home from a long trip.
- Waiting for a friend to make a tough decision about their future.
- Waiting for someone to trust them again after breaking a promise.
- Waiting for a project or assignment to be graded or evaluated.
- Waiting for a resolution to a conflict between friends.
- Waiting for a parent to find a new job.
- Waiting for someone to recover from an illness or injury.
- Waiting for a fundraiser to end to see if you won the prize.

Fruit of the Spirit Cards - Cut out at least one set to use to have kids draw a card.

Love	Love
Joy	Joy
Peace	Peace
Patience	Patience
Kindness	Kindness
Goodness	Goodness
Faithfulness	Faithfulness
Gentleness	Gentleness
Self-Control	Self-Control