

PATIENCE

Verse of the Month: Don't be proud at all. Be completely gentle.
Be patient. Put up with one another in love.
(Ephesians 4:2)

ELEMENTARY

Bible Story: Bearing with one another - Ephesians 4:2

2nd-3rd Grade

Bottom Line: Be patient. Put up with one another in love.

October 4, 2026

BEFORE LARGE GROUP

Early Arriver Idea

✂️ SUPPLIES:

- Early Arriver (Activity Page) - 1 per kid
- Pencils

≡ HOW-TO:

1. Pass out an Activity Page and a pencil to each kid as they arrive.
2. As they work, ask them some questions from the **"HIGH FIVE"** list below.

(WORD SCRAMBLE ANSWERS: MEGA, COSTUME, PARTY, AWESOME, CANDY, FUN, PRIZES)



ENGAGE EVERY KID: Use the High Five questions to engage every kid and get them excited about the Mega Awesome Costume Party! Learn more about each kid's personality by asking them what they want to dress up as this year. **Use this time to tell the kids in your group what YOU are going to dress up as for the Mega Awesome Costume Party!**

HIGH FIVE (Optional Conversation Starters):

1. Who was excited to come to church this morning?
2. When you go to a movie, would you rather have popcorn or candy?
3. What's your favorite thing to do in the fall?
4. Would you rather go to the lake or the beach?
5. Tell me your favorite thing about school right now.

Opening Activity

✂️ SUPPLIES:

- Playing cards - 8 per group
- Pencils - 4 per group

≡ HOW-TO:

1. Divide the group into two teams, and have them stand in parallel lines for a relay game.
2. Choose a kid from each team to go first and give them each two pencils and four cards. Have them hold the pencils and lay the cards flat on the floor.
3. When you say "go," the first kid in each line picks up one card using ONLY the pencils. They'll pass the card and pencils to the second kid in line. This continues until the card reaches the last kid in line.
4. Hands cannot touch the card, and the card cannot fall. If so, the card must return to the start of the line.
5. The last kid on each team places the card on the floor at the end of their line, runs the pencils back to the first kid, and returns to their spot.
6. Each team passes the next card through the line the same way.

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7. The first team to get all four cards reach the end of their line wins!

HEAD TO LARGE GROUP > > >

AFTER LARGE GROUP

Bible Story Review

SUPPLIES:

No supplies needed

HOW-TO:

1. Talk through the scenarios below with the kids.

SAY THIS:

Raise your hand if you think you're patient. (Let kids respond.) I'm going to read a few scenarios, and I want you to tell me how you should act or respond if you're being patient with others.

SCENARIOS

- Your brother is playing a video game and says you can have a turn as soon as he beats this level. It's taking FOREVER. What should you do or say? (Let kids respond.)
- You're really tired of running errands, but your dad says you need to make one more stop before going home. What should you do or say? (Let kids respond.)
- You want to try a new position on your team. You've talked to your coach, but after three games, you still haven't had a chance to play the new position. What should you do or say? (Let kids respond.)

Sometimes it's super hard to wait without complaining. But when we do, we show the people around us that we really do care about them.

Bottom Line Review

SUPPLIES:

- Bottom Line Review (Activity Page) - 1 per group
- Something to keep time (e.g., phone, clock, or watch)

HOW-TO:

1. Read the Activity Page to the kids. This part is a test of patience. You are going to read a crazy, run-on story to see if your kids have enough patience to keep listening. But don't tell them! Explain that you want them to pay close attention to the story you are about to read.
2. Talk through **"SAY THIS"** below.

PATIENCE TEST

After you've finished reading through the Activity Page, ask:

1. How did you feel while I was reading the story?

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2. Did you listen to all of it?
3. Was it hard to be patient?
4. Has anyone ever tried to tell you something that took a really long time to explain, and you were ready for them to get to the point so you could do something else?
5. Our Bottom Line tells us to **[Bottom Line] Be patient. Put up with one another in love.** Can you think of a time when someone was patient with you? How did it make you feel?
6. When you're patient with others, what does it show them? (That you care about them and love them.)
7. Can you think of someone you're having a hard time being patient with? What can you do this week to work on that?

Let's say our Bottom Line together: **[Bottom Line] Be patient. Put up with one another in love.** Let's pray and ask God to help us have patience with everyone around us.

Today, we learned to
[Bottom Line] Be patient. Put up with one another in love.



**If you haven't had a chance to pray with your small group yet,
take the time now.**

Prayer

Be sensitive to any visitor during this activity, and don't ask them to pray out loud if they're not comfortable.

SUPPLIES:

- No supplies needed

HOW-TO:

1. Have the kids huddle up to pray.
2. Have them repeat the following prayer after you.

SAY THIS:

Dear God, **(repeat)**

Please help us this week **(repeat)**

to be patient **(repeat)**

so we can show **(repeat)**

others that we love them. **(repeat)**

We love you. Amen. **(repeat)**

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MEGA AWESOME COSTUME PARTY INVITES

✂️ **SUPPLIES:**

- Mega Awesome Costume Party Invites - 1 invite per kid

≡ **HOW-TO:**

1. Pass out the invite to each kid.
2. Use the "SAY THIS" below to have kids think of some friends they want to invite to our Mega Awesome Costume Party.
3. At dismissal, connect with parents about the invitations.

💬 **SAY THIS:**

Think about some friends you know who would have an awesome time partying with you here. I am going to give each of you one of these cards. (Hold up the invite.) You can use these invites to invite some friends to join you at our Mega Awesome Costume Party!

I can't wait to meet all the friends you're going to invite. When your parents come pick you up, I want you to hand them these invitations and ask them to help you invite your friends to come party with us!

CONNECT WITH PARENTS



The Mega Awesome Costume Party is happening in THREE weeks! Today we talked about the friends that [KID'S NAME] would like to invite. Ask [KID'S NAME] who they'd like to come, and make a plan to invite them!

Verse Activity

SUPPLIES:

- Bibles - 1 per 2 kids
- Verse Activity - 1 per kid
- Scissors - 1 pair per kid
- Verse Cling Activity Page - 1 per group

≡ **HOW-TO:**

LEARN IT! (Find the verse and understand what it means.)

The Bible is full of wisdom from God. Let's look up our verse to learn why being patient with others is so important.

1. Divide the kids into pairs and give them each a Bible. Explain that the Bible is divided into the Old Testament and the New Testament. Demonstrate how to find the verse.
2. Have them find the book of Ephesians under the New Testament heading in the Table of Contents.

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3. Have them find chapter 4 (big number), verse 2 (little number).

4. **Read the verse aloud from the Verse Activity Page.**

LOCK IT! (Memorize the verse to lock it in our hearts.)

It's important to lock the verse in our hearts. One way we do that is with these motions and this activity.

1. Teach the kids the motions below.
2. Give each kid a Verse Activity page and pair of scissors. Have them cut out the puzzle pieces and then put the puzzle back together.
3. Have them mix up the words and do it again. Then have them race to see who can put it together the fastest!

MOTIONS

"Don't be proud at all." (wave index finger "no")

Be completely gentle. (hug yourself)

Be patient. (tap index finger on imaginary watch on opposite arm)

Put up with one another in love." (make a heart with both hands and pulse like a heartbeat three times)

Ephesians 4:2 (open hands like a book)

SAY THIS:

LIVE IT! (Apply the verse to the way we live every day.)

Now that we've learned the verse and locked it in, we need to live it out. Living out the verse is knowing what it means and applying it to the way we live every day.

That phrase at the end of the verse, "put up with one another," simply means to be patient with others. It shows them that what they want or need is more important than what we want. When we "put up with one another" and love the people we're with by being patient, we're treating them the way we'd want to be treated. That's how God wants us to treat the people around us. So the next time you have to wait, don't roll your eyes, don't stomp your feet, and don't whine or complain—choose patience!