

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: A man of patience - Proverbs 15:18

2nd-3rd Grade

Bottom Line: Having patience will keep you out of trouble.

October 11, 2026

BEFORE LARGE GROUP

Early Arriver Idea

✂️<SUPPLIES:

- Early Arriver (Activity Page) - 1 per kid

≡HOW-TO:

1. Pass out an Activity Page to each kid.
2. Encourage them to fill in the Mad-Lib.
3. As they're working, ask them some questions from the **"HIGH FIVE"** list below.
4. After everyone has finished their Mad-Lib, have kids share their silly story.



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. Are you planning to come to our Mega Awesome Costume Party at the end of this month?
2. What is your most favorite costume that you've ever worn and why?
3. What is the craziest costume you've ever seen?
4. What is the funniest costume you've ever seen?
5. Do you like to dress up in fun costumes? Why or why not?

Opening Activity

✂️<SUPPLIES:

- Dice - 1 per group
- Blank paper - 1 sheet per kid
- Markers - 1 per group
- Clipboards - 1 per kid

≡HOW-TO:

1. Tell the kids to sit in a circle to play a fun dice game called Sixes. Give them each a marker and a sheet of paper. Have them put their paper on a clipboard.
2. The first kid rolls. If they roll a 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5, they pass the die to their left, and the next kid rolls.
3. If they roll a 6, they pass the die to the next kid and start writing the numbers 1 through 50 on their paper as fast as they can.

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4. The die is passed around the circle as each kid rolls it. As soon as someone rolls a 6, the kid who was writing stops, and the kid who rolled the most recent 6 starts writing 1 through 50 on their paper. If someone who previously rolled a 6 rolls it again, they pick up writing numbers where they left off.
5. The game continues this way until someone is able to finish writing all 50 numbers.

HEAD TO LARGE GROUP > > >

AFTER LARGE GROUP

Bible Story Review

✂ < SUPPLIES:

- No supplies needed

≡ HOW-TO:

1. Review what the kids heard in Large Group, and talk through the discussion questions below.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. "A hot-tempered person stirs up conflict, but the one who is patient calms a quarrel" (Proverbs 15:18). What do you think that means? **(Let kids share. Remind them that a hot-tempered person does stuff without thinking about the consequences, which can lead to arguments. A patient person stays calm and doesn't have to have their way right away. Their calm attitude can help others feel calm too.)**
2. Let's say you and your sister are arguing over whose turn it is to do the dishes. What's the hot-tempered way to react? What's the patient way? **(Hot-tempered: Yell at your sister and stomp off. Patient: Let her explain why she thinks it's your turn. Then explain why you think it's hers. If you still can't agree, come to a compromise by flipping a coin or doing the dishes together to get the job done faster.)**
3. If you choose the hot-tempered way, what might happen next? **(You could get in trouble, you won't be talking to your sister.)** What if you choose the patient way? **(You won't feel angry and yucky. You'll spend less time arguing and more time solving the problem.. You'll have more time to do stuff that you want to do.)**
4. What's more important: your relationship with your sister or being right? **(Let kids share.)**
5. What's more important: your relationship with your sister or getting your way? **(Let kids share.)**

Bottom Line Review

✂ < SUPPLIES:

- No supplies needed

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≡ HOW-TO:

1. Divide the kids into two teams. Each team will form a single-file line, facing forward, with enough space between each person for someone to weave through the line.
2. You'll read each scenario below aloud. As a team, the kids must decide how to respond PATIENTLY to each situation because **[Bottom Line] Having patience will keep you out of trouble.**
3. But there's a catch. Once they come up with a solution, the first kid in line must weave through the kids in their line—all the way to the back and returning to the front—before they may answer! Both teams get to answer, but only the first team to make it through their line gets a point.
4. Talk through **"SAY THIS"** on the next page.

SCENARIOS

- You're in the cafeteria line. It's long, and you're hangry! You finally get to the second spot from the front when the girl ahead of you forgets her lunch code. They have to stop and look it up.
- You're in math class and you finish your test first. You can't turn it in until everyone else is done, but you don't have anything to do, and you're bored.
- You're finally getting to play in the baseball game, and you're up! You're heading to the plate when... CRACK! It thunders, and the game is delayed.

🗨 SAY THIS:

Patience can keep you AND other people out of trouble! This can be hard sometimes, so let's give ourselves a little reminder.

This week, when you're feeling impatient, I want you to stop, be patient, and say this sloooooow like a turtle: **[Bottom Line] Haaaaaving paaaaatience wiiiiilll keeeep meeeeee ouuut oooof**

troooooooble! Let's practice it together. (Leaders lead kids to say the Bottom Line slowly like a turtle.)

Now let's pray and ask God to help us have patience this week.

Today we learned that

[Bottom Line] Having patience will keep you out of trouble.



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

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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 close and lead them in the following prayer.

SAY THIS:

Dear God,

Thank you for giving us the Bible. It teaches us that having patience can keep us out of trouble. We want to be friends who are patient with others. We know that you're always there to help us. We love you. Amen.

MEGA AWESOME COSTUME PARTY INVITES

SUPPLIES:

- Mega Awesome Costume Party Invites - 1 invite per kid (if they didn't previously receive them)

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. Ask the group if anyone has already passed out their invitations to their friends.
4. 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! Has anyone already given any of their invitations to their friends? (Let kids respond.) Who did you invite? (Let kids respond.)

I can't wait to meet all these 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!

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CONNECT WITH PARENTS



The Mega Awesome Costume Party is happening in TWO 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 Cling Activity Page - 1 per group
- Dice - 1 per 2 kids

≡ 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 God says 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.
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. Review the motions below.
2. Have the kids partner up. One person in the pair rolls the die. They'll say the corresponding number of verse words, and the other partner will try to say the rest! (E.g., if they roll a 3, say, "Don't be proud," and let them finish the verse.)
3. If they can't complete the verse, have them refer to the Verse Activity page and let the other partner roll the die.
4. Continue alternating rolls between each person as time allows. Switch up partners as well.

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)

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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!