

4th-5th Grade.

BIG IDEA:

Patience

BOTTOM LINE:

Wait without
complaining.

BIBLE STORY:

The golden calf (Exodus
32:1–7, 15–24, 30–34)

After Large Group

BOTTOM LINE REVIEW

Use these questions to guide the kids on how they can apply the Bottom Line: **Wait without complaining**. Engage everyone in your group and give them a chance to share and participate in the discussion.

LEVEL UP THE DISCUSSION:

Use the idea below to encourage discussion and group participation.

SUPPLIES: 6 MARKERS

1. Place 6 markers in the middle of the group.
2. Read a discussion question.
3. Let any kid who would like to answer pick up a marker.
(Remind kids that the goal is not to collect the most markers. A marker is simply a signal that they have an answer to share.)
4. Let whoever picked up a marker share their answer.
5. Repeat until all the questions have been answered and all the markers are gone.

SAY THIS

Let's review the message we just heard in Large Group and how we can apply it to our lives.

1. What happened when the Israelites got tired of waiting for Moses? (Let kids respond.)
They started complaining and made some unwise choices.
2. **True or False:** The Israelites waited patiently without complaining. Pick up a marker if you think the statement is FALSE. (Let kids respond.) **FALSE**
3. Why do you think waiting can be so difficult? (Let kids respond.)
4. Today, we learned about the Israelites and the golden calf. What could the Israelites have done while they waited for Moses instead of complaining? (Let kids respond.) **Been patient, trusted God, waited even though it was hard, encouraged one another, or remembered what God had already done for them.**

5. What is something you have a hard time waiting for? (Let kids respond.)
6. Have you ever had to wait for something and then realized it was worth the wait? What was it? (Let kids respond.)
7. Waiting without complaining is hard work sometimes! It is for me, and like we heard in Large Group, it was obviously hard for the Israelites! **When it comes to waiting, what do you complain about the most?** (For example, waiting for dinner, waiting your turn, or waiting for your parents. Share a personal example of when it's hard for you to have patience, and then let kids respond.)
8. Complaining is easy, and we feel like we're getting our point across to the people around us. However, sometimes when we're complaining, we say things that are hurtful or disrespectful. It's not like we mean to do it. **So instead of complaining, how could you be more patient next time?** (Let kids respond.)

I want to challenge you this week. Let's choose the opposite of what we feel like doing—huffing and puffing—when we're tired of waiting! See if you can wait without complaining. I'm going to ask you next week how you did! Let's pray and ask God to help us have patience.

PRAYER

Huddle up with your group and lead them in prayer.

Dear God, Thank you that you are patient with us. Help us this week to be patient with those around us and to wait without complaining. We love you. Amen.

MEGA AWESOME COSTUME PARTY INVITES

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

HOW TO

1. Pass out an invite to each kid.
2. Use the "SAY THIS" below to have kids think of some friends they want to invite to the 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.) Now you can use these invites to invite some friends to join you at our Mega Awesome Costume Party!

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 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 invite your friends to come party with us!

CONNECT WITH PARENTS



The Mega Awesome Costume Party is happening NEXT week! 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! I can't wait to see everyone in their costumes!

VERSE ACTIVITY

- Bibles
- Verse Cling Activity Page
- Baby wipes
- Washable markers
- Something to use as a timer

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

SAY THIS

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. (Pass out Bibles and look up the verse. Demonstrate how to locate the Table of Contents to find the correct book, and explain how to find the verse based on the reference.)

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 this activity.

1. Have each kid write one word from the verse (or a group of words, depending on group size) on their hand with a washable marker.
2. Time the kids as they organize themselves in the correct order of the verse.
3. Have them wipe off their words with baby wipes.
4. Have each kid choose a different word and repeat if time permits.

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!