

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: Jesus is Patient – Matthew 14:13–20; Mark 10:46–52

2nd–3rd Grade

Bottom Line: Being patient shows others God's love.

October 25, 2026

BEFORE LARGE GROUP

Early Arriver Activity Ideas

GET YOUR KIDS MEGA HYPED AND SAY THIS:

You look totally MEGA AWESOME. Are you ready to have some mega awesome FUN? Let's get ready to party!

Early Arriver Activity

SUPPLIES:

- Early Arriver (Activity Page, copied on cardstock) – 1 per Small Group Leader
- Extra costume supplies (clown noses, boas, silly glasses) – 1 bucket of supplies per classroom
- Heads Up!® cards (Activity Page, copied on cardstock) – 1 set per group
- Scissors
- Watch or phone to use as timer

HOW-TO:

1. As the kids arrive, check off what costume accessories everyone has. Have fun welcoming the "characters" as they arrive!
2. If a kid isn't dressed up, let them choose from the costume supplies in the classroom bucket.
3. Explain that the kids will be playing Heads Up!®, a game similar to Charades but played in reverse. The group will act out what's on the card while one kid guesses.
4. Cut out the cards from the Activity Page, but DON'T LET THE KIDS SEE THEM.
5. Choose one kid to go first as the "guesser."
6. The guesser will hold the card—with the word facing out—on their forehead so the group can see it. The group acts the word out together until the guesser answers correctly.
7. Once the guesser correctly says the word, they may move on to the next card.
8. Set a 60-second timer. If the kid hasn't guessed correctly once the time expires, move on to the next kid.

HIGH FIVE (Optional Conversation Starters):

1. You guys look MEGA AWESOME! How'd you decide what costume you were going to wear today?
2. What is your favorite costume you've ever worn?
3. What's the funniest costume you've seen today?
4. If you really were [NAME OF KID'S COSTUME], what would you do?
5. What's the best costume you've seen so far today?

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Opening Activity

< **SUPPLIES:**

- Pennies - 1 per kid

HOW-TO:

1. Have the kids pair up. Give each pair a penny for a coin-tossing tournament.
2. Explain that one side has a head for "heads" and the other side is called "tails."
3. One kid in the pair will call "heads" or "tails" as they flip the penny. The winner of each round plays against the other winners until there's just one final winner!
4. If time allows, start another tournament.

HEAD TO LARGE GROUP > > >

AFTER LARGE GROUP

Bible Story and Bottom Line Review

< **SUPPLIES:**

- No Supplies Needed

HOW-TO:

1. Review the multiple-choice questions about the Bible story below with the kids.
2. Teach the kids the hand motions below to help them remember the Bottom Line. Place your hands in front of you, fingertips almost touching. You'll lead the kids in making a heart with their hands as you say the Bottom Line together.

MULTIPLE-CHOICE QUESTIONS

1. It can be hard to show patience when we're interrupted! What did Jesus do when he was interrupted on the boat as he was trying to head off to be alone? **(a) He told the crowd to go away. (b) He had compassion for the crowd, taught them, and fed them when they were hungry. (c) He ignored the crowd, hoping they'd go away.**
2. It can be hard to show patience when someone asks us for help and it's inconvenient. What did Jesus do when Bartimaeus yelled for Jesus to help him? **(a) He said, "Keep moving! I don't have time for this! I have to get to Jerusalem." (b) He told his friends, the disciples, to take care of the man. (c) He stopped and called for Bartimaeus... and healed him!**
3. It can be SUPER hard to show patience when someone is unkind to us! What'd Jesus do when people were unkind, made fun of him, and hurt him? **(a) He showed patience and love even as they were hurting him. (b) He called for an army of people to rescue him. (c) He yelled and fought back!**

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**Today on UpStreet, we learned that
[Bottom Line] Being patient shows others God's love.**



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

BOTTOM LINE MOTIONS

1. Touch your thumbs together and say "BEING."
2. Touch your index fingers together and say "PATIENT."
3. Touch your middle fingers together and say "SHOWS."
4. Touch your ring fingers together and say "OTHERS."
5. Touch your pinkies together and say "GOD'S."
6. Curl your fingers down so your fingernails touch and your hands form a heart, and say "LOVE."

SAY THIS:

Every time you choose patience instead of flying off the handle, you show someone else that they're important and that God loves them. So when you're interrupted, when someone asks for help, or EVEN when someone's unkind... STOP. Take a breath and say (using hand motions) **[Bottom Line] Being patient shows others God's love.** Let's ask God to help us practice patience this week.

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. Lead the kids in the prayer below.

SAY THIS:

Dear God,

Thank you that you're ALWAYS patient with us. When we get frustrated or annoyed or even interrupted this week, help us to remember how Jesus would act. Help us to be patient so we can show others your love. We love you. Amen.

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Verse Activity

SUPPLIES:

- Bibles – 1 per 2 kids
- Verse Activity Page – 1 per group
- Painter's tape – 1 roll 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 what God says about being responsible for the things he's trusted us to take care of.

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.
5. Break it down using "Say This" below.

SAY THIS:

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

Now that we've learned the verse, we need to live it out. Living out the verse is knowing what the verse 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, don't whine and complain... choose patience!

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Pumpkin Relay

✂️ SUPPLIES:

- Empty paper towel tube - 2 per group
- Mini pumpkin - 2 per group
- Masking tape - 1 roll per group

≡ HOW-TO:

1. Create two even starting lines with the masking tape about 3' apart.
2. Create two more lines about 6' away from the first two lines.
3. Divide kids into two teams and line up the teams behind the taped line.
4. The first kid in each line will get a pumpkin and a paper tube. When the leader says "go," each kid will quickly race to the next line and back while they balance the pumpkin on the paper tube without touching the pumpkin.
5. When the first player gets back to the start, they should hand it to the next player in line to race, then go to the back of the line and sit down to show they already raced.
6. The first team with all players sitting wins!

FIRST TIME GUESTS

I am so glad you were here today! I hope you had a Mega Awesome time! I loved meeting you and hanging out with you today. I want to invite you to come back to Community Church. Each week we meet right here in this room and in this spot. We play games, hang out together, and hear some really cool messages about a MEGA God and how AWESOME he thinks you are. I hope I see you back here in our group real soon.