

April 2024 – Week 4

Today's Bible Story: I'm With You (Simeon Waits for the Messiah) • *Luke 2:25-35*

Today's Bottom Line: God is with you while you wait.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Wait for the LORD. Be strong and don't lose hope. Wait for the LORD.* Psalm 27:14 (NIV)

Monthly Virtue: Patience—Waiting until later for what you want now

Basic Truth: I can trust God no matter what.

Story Experience Outline

As the Story Experience Leader, you win when you engage kids' hearts through a dynamic and interactive Bible story and prayer experience in a Large Group setting.

1. Intro (5 Minutes)

Hi, friends! It's great to be here with you at [name of your environment]! I'm having so much fun with all of you this month. We've been finding out how God can help us live with patience.

"Patience is **waiting until later for what you want now.**

"We need patience every day of our lives! We need patience when we're waiting to get picked up after school or practice. We need patience when we're stuck in traffic. We need patience when we're at a cookout and we're waiting for our food to cook. We need patience when we're sick, and we just want to feel better!

"The thing is, we're not on our own when we have to wait. We know that God is with us, and that God can help us have patience. Even when things happen that we don't understand, we can have patience and trust that God is still good . . . and God is still in control. The apostle Paul wrote that patience is something that God's Holy Spirit can create in us.

Lead the kids through the game

"Let's jump into worship."

Worship

To create meaningful relationships with kids and parents so that they can confidently pursue a life-long relationship with Jesus

Bible Story & Video ***Reflection (5 Minutes)***

What a cool story! I love how Simeon gave us such a good example of what it means to wait and trust God. Simeon believed God's promise to him—that he would see the Savior with his own eyes! And while he waited, Simeon had patience, because he followed God and knew that God was with him.

“Let's remember this:

[Bottom Line] “**God is with you while you wait.**”

(Hold up Bible.) “We can look back at God's Big Story and see how God has been faithful—all the way from the beginning. God promised to bless the world through Abraham's family. Through the words of the prophets, God promised to send a Savior. The people waited and waited . . . and when the time was right, Jesus, God's Son, was born.

“When you're waiting for something, it helps to remember that God is with you. God is with you right now, and God will be with you always. It's absolutely true that ***[Basic Truth]*** **you can trust God no matter what!**”

“When you put your faith in Jesus, you have God's Holy Spirit living inside you. God's Spirit can fill you with things like joy, peace, and patience that can help you as you're waiting. You can choose to use your time waiting to get to know God better, and to help others learn more about God too—by spreading God's love and kindness to those around you. Other people will be able to see your patience, and they'll be able to see that it comes from your relationship with Jesus. That's pretty cool to think about, don't you think?”

Let's pray.

PRAY

“God, thank You for being with us while we wait. You are faithful and good. You love us more than we can imagine! When we're waiting for something, help us to put our trust in You. Give us patience so we can wait well. Remind us that You are always working in our lives, and ***[Basic Truth]*** **we can trust You no matter what.** We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen.”

Dismiss kids to their small groups.

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