

Grade K-2: Small Group Leader Guide

April 7th 2024

Today's Bible Story: The Waiting (A Patience Proverb) • *Proverbs 14:29*

Today's Bottom Line: Waiting can make you wise.

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

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

Basic Truth: I need to make the wise choice.



Small Group Connect (10 Minutes)

1. **Introduce** yourself, and **welcome** new kids by name.
2. Kids **share** what happened during the past week.
3. **Check up** on past week's prayer requests and events.
4. **Discuss** the welcome question: "Ask them about the best and worst part of their week."
5. **Activity**

Early Arriver

Made to Explore: an activity that extends learning through hands-on experimentation and discovery

What You Need: Offering container, paper or plastic cups, and paper plates

What You Do:

- Warmly greet each kid by name as they arrive.
- Invite kids who have brought an offering to put it in the offering container.
- As kids arrive, form groups of two or three.
- Give every group of kids a set of eight to twelve cups and four to six plates.
- Challenge the kids to work together to create the tallest tower possible.
- Support the kids' play with open-ended questions and thoughtful comments, for example:
 - What do you want to put on top next?
 - What are some other ways to keep the tower from falling down?
 - You were careful and patient when you put the last cup on top! You didn't knock the tower over. Great job!

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



Small Group Activity (20 Minutes)

Great Understanding

[Talk about God | Bible Story Review]

Made to Create: an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing

What You Need: Bible marked at Proverbs 14, “Great Understanding” Activity Page, and prepared zip-top bags

What You Do:

- Help kids get into groups of two or three.
- Give each group a set of the prepared “Great Understanding” puzzle pieces in a zip-top bag.
- Instruct each group to work together to assemble their puzzle.
 - Praise kids for practicing patience as they complete the puzzles.

What You Say:

“Some of you had pictures of David on your puzzles and others of you had pictures of Joseph. What did we hear about today that both Joseph and David had in common? (*patience*) Yes! They both showed great understanding by being patient. David waited more than 10 years from the time God told him he would be king until he actually became king. And Joseph waited years and years from the time his brothers betrayed him, through being put in prison unfairly, to when he was finally put in charge of all of Egypt!

(Use the marked Bible to read Proverbs 14:29 to the group.) “Someone who has understanding makes wise choices. Joseph and David made the wise choice, trusted God, and showed great patience. But who has been the PERFECT example of patience? (*Jesus*) Yes, Jesus! Jesus was ALWAYS patient! He was patient with His family, His friends, and even His enemies!

“It can be tough to stop and think, but God can help us discover how to get better at waiting. When can you be patient? (*Invite responses, like: I can wait for my dad to change my little brother’s diaper, I can wait for my stepmom when she’s talking with somebody, I can wait my turn in line, etc.*) Great ideas!

[Bottom Line] “Waiting can make you wise, so when you need to wait, ask God to help you be patient. And remember: **[Bottom Line]** waiting can make you wise.”



Small Group Discussion (10 Minutes)

Say the Bottom Line and Bible Verse together:

Today's Bottom Line: Waiting can make you wise.

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

Pray and Dismiss

[Pray to God | Prayer Activity]

Made to Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Use the conversation below as a guide to lead the kids in prayer.

What You Say:

"The thing to remember this week is this: **[Bottom Line] waiting can make you wise.** God can help us grow in patience. While you wait, you can cheer for your team (*lead kids to pantomime*), pick up your toys (*lead kids to pantomime*), read a book (*lead kids to pantomime*), color a picture (*lead kids to pantomime*), play soccer with a friend (*lead kids to pantomime*), or take deep breaths (*lead kids to pantomime*). You can also do one REALLY important thing and ask God to help you wait well. Let's do that right now. Let's pray.

"Dear God, You showed Solomon that people who are patient show great understanding. This week, help us be patient and make wise choices. Help us wait well by taking deep breaths. Help us wait well by helping and encouraging others. Above all, help us wait well by remembering what's true: that You have a GOOD plan, that You LOVE us, and that You will be WITH US while we wait. We love You and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

As adults arrive to pick up, encourage kids to share what they'll do this week to practice patience.

Check Out & Parent Pick-up

Kids should stay in the Small Group until their parents arrive to pick them up and show the 3 digit tag that matches the number on the name tag of the child being picked up..

When a kid from your small group leaves, **say** something positive and specific to their parent. Remember this week to **Bottom Line: waiting can make you wise.**

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