

TWO-THREE CURRICULUM

OCT 25

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

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

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

BEFORE LARGE GROUP

Early Arriver Idea

SUPPLIES:

- Early Arriver (Activity Page) – 1 per kid
- Markers or colored pencils

HOW-TO:

- As the kids arrive, give them an activity page. Help with directions as needed.
- As the kids search for the hidden words, talk with them about their week. Feel free to use the HIGH FIVE questions below!

HIGH FIVE: (Optional conversation starters)

1. Have you ever had to wait super long for something you were excited about? What was it?
2. Is there anything you’re waiting for right now? Something you’re looking forward to?
3. How long can you hold your breath?
4. What’s the longest you’ve ever stood in line? What was it for? Was it worth it?
5. What kind of games does your family like to play while waiting in line or on a long car drive?

AFTER LARGE GROUP

Bible Story and Bottom-Line Review

SUPPLIES: No Supplies Needed

HOW-TO:

- Review the multiple-choice questions about the Bible story below with the kids.
- 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!

BOTTOM LINE MOTIONS

- Touch your thumbs together and say “BEING.”
- Touch your index fingers together and say “PATIENT.”
- Touch your middle fingers together and say “SHOWS.”
- Touch your ring fingers together and say “OTHERS.”
- Touch your pinkies together and say “GOD’S.”
- 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:

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- No supplies needed

HOW-TO:

- 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.

Verse Activity

SUPPLIES:

- Bibles – 1 per 2 kids
- Verse Activity Page – 1 per group (hanging on cart)
- Painter's tape – 1 roll per group

HOW-TO:

LEARN IT! (Find the verse and understand what it means.)

- 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.
- Have them find the book of Ephesians under the New Testament heading in the Table of Contents.
- Have them find chapter 4 (big number), verse 2 (little number).
- Read the version of the verse aloud from the Verse Activity Page (We are using a version this month that's slightly different than the one in your Bible).
- Break it down using "Say This" below.

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!

- Review the motions below.
- Divide the kids into four groups. Form a large square on the floor with tape (see diagram).
- Line up each group along one side of the square with all the groups facing inside.
- Assign each group a phrase of the verse below. Have them say it aloud.
- Have everyone say the reference (Ephesians 4:2) together.
- Everyone will rotate to the side of the square on their right. Start with the same side (1) but with a

new group. Point to each group as they say their phrase and end with everyone saying the reference.

- Rotate twice more so that each group gets to say every phrase of the verse.
- See if anyone can say the verse from memory.

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 heart with both hands)

PHRASES

GROUP 1: "Don't be proud at all.

GROUP 2: Be completely gentle.

GROUP 3: Be patient.

GROUP 4: Put up with one another in love."

ALL GROUPS: Ephesians 4:2

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 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!