

Patience

1 | Hangout

SUPPLIES

- Treats the kids can share (e.g., candies or stickers)
- Variety of wrapping papers
- Scissors
- Tape
- Media player

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY

- Wrap the treats together in multiple layers of different wrapping papers (at least six layers). Change the paper pattern after each layer.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Gather the kids to sit in a circle.
- Introduce this week's Big Idea: **Patience shows our trust in God.**
- Discuss: Have you ever heard the saying, "Good things are worth waiting for"? What do you think it means?
- Explain that if something is worth doing or having, it's worth waiting for, even if waiting can be challenging!
- Lead the group to brainstorm things that are worth the wait (e.g., waiting in line for a roller coaster or waiting for a special holiday).
- Let the kids know that you're going to play a fun game that requires patience: Pass the Parcel.
- Play some upbeat music and pass the wrapped treats around the circle.
- Pause the music and direct the person who's holding the parcel to unwrap just one layer.
- Repeat until the final layer is reached. Prompt whoever unwraps the treats to share them!
- Watch this week's video from the Now Playing Kids playlist on the One Story YouTube channel.

2 | Hear

SUPPLIES

- Bible

INSTRUCTIONS

- Let the kids know that today's God Story helps us understand what patience is and why it's so important.
- Look up and read Galatians 5:22–23, which are the Key Verses for this series.
- Discuss: Who produces the fruit of patience in our lives? (Holy Spirit)
- Emphasize that when we focus on Jesus, and grow closer to him, the Holy Spirit becomes "louder" in our lives and will help us be patient.
- Look up and read aloud Romans 5:3–5 to learn more about patience and the Holy Spirit.
- Review and discuss:
 - What helps us develop patience? (Suffering and problems)
 - What does patience help us develop? (Strength of character)
- Explain that our character is who we are on the inside: the way we think, act, and feel. Patience makes us strong even when things get tough!
- Discuss:
 - How do we know that God loves us dearly? (He gave us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with his love)
 - How would you explain what patience is—and why it is so important—in your own words?



BIG IDEA

Patience shows our trust in God.

3 | Huddle

SUPPLIES

- None

INSTRUCTIONS

- Discuss: Have you ever had to be patient through a challenging time? What happened? How did you feel while you waited for it to resolve?
- If possible, share your own age-appropriate example of a difficult situation in which you needed to have patience.
- Discuss: How did you feel when the situation got worked out?
- Emphasize that although waiting for tough situation to end can be difficult, patience shows our trust in God. He gets us through and gives us what we need at just the right time.
- Pray, "Thank you, God, for letting us know that you dearly love [name each group member]. Thank you for giving us the Holy Spirit who grows patience in us. Please help us trust you, especially during tough times. [Pray for any situations that the kids mentioned earlier]. We love you! Amen."

