Are We There Yet?

**Bible Truth:** Are We There Yet? (A Patience Proverb) * Proverbs 14:29

**Bottom Line:** When you think you can’t wait, keep your cool.

**Key Question:** What do you do when it’s hard to wait?

**Memory Verse:** “Wait for the LORD. Be strong and don’t lose hope. Wait for the LORD!” *Psalm 27:14, NIrV*

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

**Basic Truth:** I can trust God no matter what.

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**Early Arriver Activity:** “Birdies’ Picnic” Hidden Picture Activity

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**GET READY**

Prepare ahead of time for preteen small group this week:

**Social: Providing Time for Fun Interaction**

1. **Get Your Head in the Game**

   *Made to Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group*
   
   - 16-foot (or longer) rope with ends tied together
   - One blindfold for each student

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**Groups: Creating a Safe Place to Connect**

1. **Discussion Questions**

   *[Live for God | Application Activity]*

   *Made to Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding*
   
   - No supplies needed

2. **Verses to Take with You**

   *[Hear from God | Memory Verse Activity]*

   *Made to Imagine: an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates biblical application through role-play and reenactment*
   
   - Bibles
   - Markers
   - One full sheet of cardstock for each student

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**Prayer and Dismissal**
Are We There Yet?

**Bible Truth:** Are We There Yet? (A Patience Proverb) * Proverbs 14:29
**Bottom Line:** When you think you can’t wait, keep your cool.
**Key Question:** What do you do when it’s hard to wait?
**Memory Verse:** “Wait for the LORD. Be strong and don’t lose hope. Wait for the LORD!”
  *Psalm 27:14, NIV*
**Life App:** Patience—Waiting until later for what you want now
**Basic Truth:** I can trust God no matter what.

Early Arriver Activity: “Birdies’ Picnic” Hidden Picture Activity

Social: Providing Time for Fun Interaction *(Small Groups, 10 minutes)*
Welcome kids and spend time engaging in conversation and catching up. Get ready to experience today’s story

1. Get Your Head in the Game
   *Made to Play: an activity that encourages learning through following guidelines and working as a group*

   **What You Need:** Rope, blindfolds

   **What You Do:**
   - **Invite** everyone to stand in a circle.
   - **Ask** each student to put on a blindfold.
   - **Place** the rope inside the circle.
   - **Instruct** the students to find a section of the rope on the floor in front of them and take hold of it with both hands.
   - **Tell** them to work together to form the rope into the shape of a huge ice cube (square) on the floor while remaining blindfolded.
     - When they think they have accomplished the task, let them remove their blindfolds and see how closely their rope resembles a square.
   - **Repeat** by having students move to a new spot in the circle, but this time tell the students they cannot talk to one another.
   - **Tell** kids to sit down when they are finished.

   **Wrap Up and Say:**
   “All this month, we’ve been talking about patience—waiting until later for what you want now. In other words, keeping as cool as an ice cube when you have to wait for something. *[Transition]* But what do you do when you have to keep your cool but don’t have an enormous ice cube to help you? Let’s go to Large Group and find out about something much cooler than ice.”

Lead your group to the Large Group area.
Power Up: Large Group Worship (20 minutes)

Rush Creek Campus:
252, K-5th grade classes, will meet in Room C4/C5 for large group worship.

Sunset Campus:
252, K–5th grade classes, will meet in Room 103 for large group worship.

Bring your offering plates so that all offering money can be put together. Offering plates will be picked up in the Large Group Areas.

All leaders need to be engaged in an enthusiastic fashion during this time. Talk to your team and determine who will be leading (there can be more than one leader) each week. Welcome everyone and talk about the theme of the lesson and the Bottom Line for the week. Talk about how the Bible story shows us the character of God.

- Sing Worship Songs
- Watch the 252 Movie and Bible Story

Pray over the offering just like we do in worship and return to your small group rooms.

Groups: Creating a Safe Place to Connect (Small Groups, 20 minutes)
Create a safe place to connect and learn how the Bible story applies to real life experiences through interactive activities and discussion questions.

1. Discussion Questions

[Live for God | Application Activity]
Made to Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:
Ask:
- Why is it harder to be patient with certain people than with others?
- If you know that someone is difficult for you to be around and not lose your patience, how is that helpful?
- Explain why you agree or disagree with the following statements:
  - A patient person—a person who “waits for God”—is more fun to be around.
  - When I lose my temper, it’s not always my fault.
  - My friends know that I don’t mean what I say when I’m angry, which makes it okay.
- What are some ways that impatience can hurt us? How does it hurt others?
- Tell about a time when a friendship ended because someone got mad and couldn’t chill out. (No names, please.) What would it take for them to be friends again?
2. Verses to Take with You
[Hear from God | Memory Verse Activity]

Made to Imagine: an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates biblical application through role-play and reenactment

What You Need: Bibles, cardstock, markers

What You Do:

- **Set out** the markers and give everyone a piece of cardstock and a Bible.
- **Remind** students about the verse they heard about today in Large Group: Proverbs 14:29.
- **Tell** them that there are many other verses in the Bible that challenge us to be patient and not lose our cools.
- **Assign** students a verse from the list at the bottom of the page. *(For your quick reference, each verse is printed in full using the NIV translation.)*
- **Tell** everyone to write the verse reference on the back of his cardstock then look it up in his Bible.
- Using the markers, **let** them create a simple road sign or billboard that illustrates what they think is the main point of their verse. Suggest that they identify a key word and replace it with a picture that represents that word.
- When finished, **let** everyone share their signs and the verse that goes with it. Ask them how they can live out that verse this week.
- **Close** the activity by reminding students that if we call ourselves followers of Jesus, our lives should show it.
  - We don’t wear a “sign” that says we’re following Christ, but when we keep our cools with someone when they annoy us or when they let us down, we become walking, talking, living signs that demonstrate God’s kind of patience.

**Galatians 5:22-23** – “But the fruit the Holy Spirit produces is love, joy and peace. It is being patient, kind and good. It is being faithful and gentle and having control of oneself. There is no law against things of that kind.”

**Colossians 3:12** – “You are God’s chosen people. You are holy and dearly loved. So put on tender mercy and kindness as if they were your clothes. Don’t be proud. Be gentle and patient.”

**Psalm 40:1** – “I was patient while I waited for the Lord. He turned to me and heard my cry for help.”

**Proverbs 14:29** – “Anyone who is patient has great understanding. But anyone who gets angry quickly shows how foolish he is.”

**Proverbs 15:18** – “A man who burns with anger stirs up fights. But a person who is patient calms things down.”

**Ephesians 4:2** – “Don’t be proud at all. Be completely gentle. Be patient. Put up with one another in love.”

**Pray and Dismiss**

Dear God, thank You for being patient with us, even when we sometimes get angry quickly. Please help us learn to keep our cool by being patient. Thank You, God, for always hearing our prayers and helping us. Amen.