

City SG - April 7-8, 2018

Bible Story: Baby on Board (Hannah Prays for a Baby) • 1 Samuel 1:6–2:1

Bottom Line: When you think you can't wait, talk to God about it.

Memory Verse: "Wait for the LORD. Be strong and don't lose hope. Wait for the LORD!" *Psalm 27:14, NIV*

1. View Along the Way

What You Need: Cardstock (one piece per child), scissors, markers

What You Do:

- Hand out cardstock and scissors and instruct kids to each cut one piece of cardstock down the middle, lengthwise.
- Then instruct them to cut the two strips width-wise two more times so they have six squares.
- Tell kids to pretend that they went on a road trip (it could be to anywhere they want).
- Instruct kids to draw pictures in their squares as if they are pictures they took along the way while they were on their pretend road trip.
- As time allows, let kids share their pictures with the group.

What You Say:

"Those sound like some pretty amazing trips! You guys are giving me a travel bug. Having a fun trip coming up can be fun to look forward to but also hard to wait for. **[Transition] Today in Large Group, we learned about someone who was waiting for something for a VERY long time. Have you ever had to wait for something for a VERY long time?**" *(Allow Response)*

2. Review Jumble

What You Need: "How To" and "Review Questions" Activity Pages (one per child), plain white paper (one piece per child), scissors, markers, Bibles

What You Do:

- Hand out one piece of plain white paper to each kid.
- Help kids follow the instructions on the How To Activity Page to make a cootie catcher with the numbers 1 through 8 written on the inside folds.
- When all kids have finished making their cootie catchers, let kids take turns using the cootie catcher to choose a question.
- To do this:
 - Open/close the cootie catcher one time for each letter in their first name (i.e. A-D-A-M would be four times).
 - When they finish, the cootie catcher should be opened up to four numbers.
 - Choose one of those four numbers and ask them the question from the Activity Page that aligns with that number. *(Note: If the kids aren't sure of the answer, encourage them to ask a friend or to look up the story in the Bible: 1 Samuel 1:6–2:1.)*
 - Try to pick a question that has not yet been asked.
 - If all the available numbers have already been asked, ask the second question listed under the number chosen.

What You Say:

“The story today was about a woman who wanted a baby of her very own. You are not exactly old enough to be a mom or dad, but I bet there is something you are waiting for. Whether it’s spring break or your birthday or summer or a trip you have coming up or a big game, performance, or recital—we all have things we are looking forward to. The important thing is to be patient as we wait for whatever it is we are looking forward to and believe that God’s timing is perfect. ***[Make It Personal] (Tell kids about a time when you were waiting for something and you felt like it should have already happened. Were you able to wait patiently and see that God’s timing is perfect? Did you grow impatient, and did it challenge your faith?)*** One of the best things we can do when we are trying to be patient is to pray. We can tell God what we are waiting for and why we are so excited. We can even tell Him all about how hard it is to wait. The important thing is that ***[Bottom Line] when you think you can’t wait, talk to God about it.***”

3. Puzzle Through It

What You Need: “Puzzle Through It” Activity Pages (1 sheet for every 2 kids, per service), scissors

What You Do:

- Ask kids to get into teams of two.
- When you say, “Go,” teams will compete to cut up and reassemble the pieces as quickly as possible.
 - Instruct one teammate to cut out the puzzle while his partner faces the other direction.
 - Then, when the person who did the cutting is finished, he should mix up the pieces and then let his partner know the pieces are ready.
 - The second partner will then turn around and work to put the pieces of the puzzle together as quickly as possible while the first partner turns away.
- Invite kids to encourage each other with their words and cheer each other on while they are waiting.
- The winners are whichever team finishes first.
- If time allows, mix up the pieces and play again with the first partner racing against the other teams to assemble the puzzle again.

What You Say:

“Sometimes we are put into situations where we have no choice but to be patient. For instance, we might be waiting in line somewhere or waiting for something to start, like a movie or show. When that happens and we have no choice but to wait, we need to find a way to be patient. Those are good times to take a moment to pray, because ***[Bottom Line] when you think you can’t wait, talk to God about it.***”

4. Hold Your Tongue

What You Need: No Supplies Needed

What You Do:

- Let kids wash their hands or clean them with hand sanitizer. (If you use hand sanitizer, make sure it’s fully dry before kids “hold their tongues” so they don’t get the taste of sanitizer on their tongues!)
- Say the verse together as a group to review it.
- Then ask kids to try saying it again, but this time they have to hold onto their tongues while they say it.

- If time and interest allow, see if any kids want to try to say it individually while holding their tongues.

What You Say:

“Our verse this month tells us to wait for the Lord by being strong and not losing hope. Sometimes that can be much easier said than done. What are some ways you can be strong and hopeful when you are waiting? *(Pause for responses.)* Those are some great ideas! One of the best ways to be strong and hopeful is to pray, because **[Bottom Line] when you think you can’t wait, talk to God about it.**”

Pray and Dismiss

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Ask kids about times when they have had a hard time being patient.
 - If they have a hard time thinking of examples, prompt them with: sitting in traffic in the car, when someone in their family is typically always running late, or when they’re waiting for a turn on playground equipment or during PE class.
- Tell kids that sometimes talking to God either quietly or by praying out loud can help us when we need to be patient.
- Pray in a quiet voice, using the guide below.

What You Say:

“Thank you, God, for helping us get through times when we have to wait. It can be hard to be patient but, with You, we can be strong and hopeful in every situation. Help us to remember that **[Bottom Line] when you think you can’t wait, talk to God about it.**”