

City SG - June 22-23, 2019

Bible Story: Right Here Waiting (Simeon at the Temple) • *Luke 2:22-35*

Bottom Line: When you need to wait, ask God for patience.

Memory Verse: *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.* Galatians 5:22-23a, NIV

1. What Are You Waiting For?

What You Need: Paper, pens

What You Do:

- Hand out a piece of paper and a pen to each child.
- Instruct kids to list things they have to wait for. Tell them to make sure their neighbors can't see their lists.
- Give them two minutes to write down as many answers as they can.
- When the two minutes are up, select one child to share his list.
- Kids should check their own lists and cross off any answers that match those shared by that kid.
- Continue letting kids share their lists until everyone has a list of answers that are unique to them.
- Instruct kids to tally up their points: one point for every unique answer.

Need a Variation for Younger Kids?: Write down answers they give you to the question of things they have to wait for. Challenge them to come up with at least 25-50 unique answers. Once completed ask your group how it makes them feel to wait for what they listed, and why they feel that way.

What You Say:

"Do you know what these two lists have in common? Waiting! No matter your age, you will always have to wait for something. **[Transition]** In our Bible story today, we heard about a man named Simeon who waited a LONG time for Jesus to be born!"

2. Pass It On

What You Need: Foam Ball (1 per group)

What You Do:

- Guide the kids to circle up and sit on the floor.
- Play music on your smart phone or hum or sing a tune as the kids pass the ball around the circle.
- Stop the music (or singing/ humming) after the ball makes several passes around the circle. Make them wait for it!
- Read a question from the list below.
- Allow the kid holding the ball when the music stops to select a friend to answer.
- The kid selected may get help from friends if he needs it.
- Continue passing the ball and stopping the music at random until all review questions have been asked and answered.

Review Questions on next page...

Review Questions:

1. Today's Bible story is about a man named what? (*Simeon*)
2. What promise did God make to Simeon? (*That he would see the Messiah before He died*)
3. Did God give a specific date or time when he would meet the Messiah? (*No! Simeon had to wait.*)
4. Who came to the temple to have their baby dedicated? (*Mary and Joseph*)
5. Who was the baby? (*Jesus, the Messiah*)
6. God's Spirit prompted Simeon to go the temple courtyard. What happened? (*Simeon held the baby, praised God, and said a prayer of dedication*)
7. How did Mary and Joseph respond when Simeon prayed for Jesus? (*They were amazed*)
8. Why do you think Mary and Joseph responded this way? (*They were surprised that Simeon recognized who Jesus really was, even though he was only eight days old*)
9. How do you think Simeon felt after meeting Jesus that day? (*Grateful, happy, excited that he was able to meet the SAVIOR*)
10. Have you ever had to wait a long time for something? What happened?

What You Say:

"Waiting isn't easy. Most of the time, we want what we want right now. I'm sure Simeon was anxious and wondered when or if God would fulfill His promise. But I think all that waiting and trusting actually caused Simeon's faith to grow! And I'm thankful that he relied on God to help him in the waiting. God can help us, too. **[Bottom Line] When you need to wait, ask God for patience.**"

3. Memory Verse Scramble

What You Need: Bibles, Memory Verse Cards from Week 1 (2 sets per group)

What You Do:

- Look up Galatians 5:22-23a and review it together as a group.
- Divide your group into 2 teams.
- Give each team a set of "Memory Verse Phrases".
- Scatter the phrases on the floor/rug face down.
- On your "GO!" teams will compete to put the verse in order.
- Play as many rounds as time/interest allows.

BEFORE DISMISSAL: AT "COMMUNION CALL"

HAND OUT "GOD TIME" CARDS TO EACH CHILD AND ALLOW THEM TIME TO BEGIN WORKING ON THE WEEKLY ACTIVITY

IF CHILDREN BRING THEM BACK THE FOLLOWING WEEK, THEY RECEIVE A PRIZE!