



# LESSON 26 | Patience

**Bible Basis:** 1 Samuel 24:1–22; John 5:1–15

**Key Verse:** Proverbs 14:29: “Anyone who is patient has great understanding.”

**Key Question:** How does God help me wait?

**Key Idea:** I do not get angry quickly, and I am patient, even when things go wrong.

**Resource:** *Believe Storybook Bible*, Chapter 26, “Patience”

## Master Supplies List

- ☐ *Believe Storybook Bible* (optional)
- ☐ PowerPoint slides or printable posters of illustrations
- ☐ A few pieces of uncooked macaroni in a bowl
- ☐ Family Page (one per child)

## Optional Supplies

You will need the following supplies based on which option(s) you choose in **STEP 3 | Explore More:**

- ☐ **OPTION 1:** White paper plates (one per child), crayons or markers, craft foam shapes, stickers, craft gems, glue sticks
- ☐ **OPTION 2:** Sticky notes, pencils, four cones or chairs
- ☐ **OPTION 4:** Crayons or markers, Let’s Color! sheet (one per child)
- ☐ **OPTION 6:** Two puppets

## STEP 1 | Come Together (10 min)

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**Supplies:** A few pieces of uncooked macaroni in a bowl

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### PASTA

- GATHER the children.
- ASK, Who likes macaroni and cheese? Who likes spaghetti with sauce and meatballs? (Take responses)
- SAY, Last night I made macaroni and cheese for my family, but no one liked it. They all complained and they wouldn't eat it. Do you want to know why? (Pause) Well, I'll tell you. I was in kind of a hurry, so I gave them macaroni like this.
- SHOW the bowl of uncooked macaroni. Allow the children to pass around the bowl and feel the macaroni.
- SAY, It's still the same macaroni I always buy, but who can tell me what needs to be done with it? (Allow the children to point out that you did not cook it)
- SAY, But I told you I was in a hurry. I didn't have time to cook it. What's the problem? (It's too hard; it doesn't taste good; it's cold)
- SAY, I guess I wasn't being very patient. If I had taken the time and waited for the macaroni to cook, it would have turned out much better.

### REVIEW

- SAY, *Patience* means waiting for the right time to do something. It can be hard to wait, especially when we have a problem. But God wants us to be patient rather than complain or get angry.

### KEY VERSE

- REVIEW this week's Key Verse. You may want to repeat the verse slowly a few times until the children are able to say it from memory.
- **NOTE:** You may also choose to review last week's Key Verse together.

Proverbs 14:29

Anyone who is patient      (*Hold palms out in a "stop" motion*)  
has great understanding.   (*Point to temple*)

## STEP 2 | Hear the Story (15 min)

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**Supplies:** Believe Storybook Bible (optional), PowerPoint slides or printable posters of illustrations

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## INTRODUCTION

- SAY, It can be hard to be patient, even in little things like waiting in a line or waiting for your birthday to come. But God wants us to be patient in everything.

CONTINUE, Today we'll read about two people who had big problems but still practiced patience.

## READ CHAPTER 26

- READ aloud the story script below or chapter 26, "Patience," from the *Believe Storybook Bible*.
- SHOW the illustrations included with this curriculum on PowerPoint slides or printable posters.

### THE STORY OF DAVID

- Have you ever stood in a very long line? Or had to wait your turn to play with a toy? Waiting can be hard. When we wait without complaining or becoming angry, it's called *patience*. God is patient with us, and he wants us to learn to be patient, too. We can learn patience from people in the Bible, like David. Do you remember hearing about how King Saul wanted to kill David? David escaped, but then Saul chased him.
- King Saul spent years chasing David all over the country. He even had a powerful army to help him. Once, when they were chasing David through the desert, Saul went into a dark cave to rest. Do you know who was in that cave? David! He and his friends were hiding in there from Saul.
- David's friends told him to kill Saul. But David said, "No, it is not God's time for me to be king. I will be patient and wait." David did not kill Saul, but he did something else. He snuck up and cut off a piece of Saul's robe. Saul didn't even know it had happened!
- Saul finally got up and left the cave. David followed him and shouted, "I was in the cave with you. Look, here is a piece of your robe. I could have killed you but I didn't!"
- King Saul felt very sorry. He could see that David was a good, patient man of God. He knew that someday David would become king and that he would be a good king.

### THE STORY OF THE MAN AT THE POOL

- Have you ever been sick? It's no fun staying in bed, waiting to get better. Maybe you want to play outside but you have to be

patient and wait until you feel better. In Jerusalem, there was once a man who waited a long time to get better.

- The man could not walk. He wanted to get better, so every day he sat by a special pool. People believed the water in this pool could make them healthy. They thought an angel stirred the water and whoever got in first would be healed. The man sat on his mat waiting for the water to be stirred. But each time, someone else got into the pool before him! This went on for many, many years.
- One day, Jesus saw the man and asked, “Do you want to get well?” Of course the man wanted to get well. He explained to Jesus that he could not crawl into the water fast enough.
- Jesus said, “Pick up your mat and walk.” Right away, the man was healed! He could walk! He was very happy. His time of waiting was finally over. He told everyone that Jesus had healed him.
- The next time you have to wait, think of the man at the pool. Ask God to help you stay patient and calm while you are waiting. That will make God happy, and it will make you and those around you happy, too!

#### REVIEW DAVID

- ASK, What problem did David have in the beginning of our story? (Saul was chasing him and wanted to kill him)
- ASK, How did David show patience in the cave? (He had a chance to kill Saul and become king, but he did not do it)
- ASK, What was David’s reward for his patience? (He became king and was a great leader)

#### REVIEW THE MAN AT THE POOL

- ASK, What was the man at the Pool of Bethesda waiting for? (The angels to stir the water so he could get in and be healed)
- ASK, What was his reward for being patient and believing in Jesus? (Jesus healed him and he was able to walk)
- PRAY, God, please help us become patient people. Help us to wait on your timing in all things, and keep us from complaining or becoming angry while we wait. Amen.

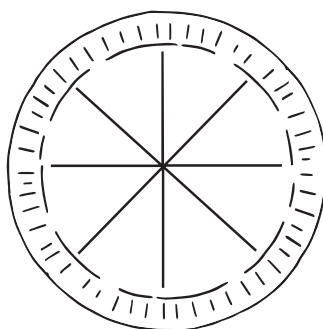
## STEP 3 | Explore More

Choose from these activity options, depending on your available time frame, to help the children explore the lesson further.

### Option 1: Becoming King (20 min)

**Supplies:** White paper plates (one per child), crayons or markers, craft foam shapes, stickers, craft gems, glue sticks

**Teacher Prep:** Cut a large + and an x, one on top of the other, across the center of each plate, leaving the outer rim intact.



This will create a crown when pressed onto a child's head. Make an example crown for the children to model their craft after.

- SAY, David could have tried to make himself king by killing Saul, but he waited for God's timing. He was patient and later became one of the greatest kings of Israel.
- TELL the children that they will be making a crown to remind them of the story of King David.
- GIVE each child a paper plate and craft supplies.
- INSTRUCT them to decorate the front of their plate however they would like.
- SHOW them how to gently press it onto their head to look like a crown.

### Option 2: Saul's Robe (15 min)

**Supplies:** Sticky notes, pencils, four cones or chairs

**Teacher Prep:** Mark off a square area of the room with four cones or chairs. It should be large enough for the children to walk around in, but small enough so they are about an arm's length from one another.

- WRITE each child's name on a sticky note.
- HELP the children stick the notes with their own names on their backs.

- INSTRUCT the children to walk around within the square, attempting to pull sticky notes from their classmates' backs.
- SAY, You will have to be as quick and clever as David was when he cut a piece of King Saul's robe.
- TELL the children that if they are caught taking someone's note (by that person only), they have to put it back.
- PLAY until several children have taken notes without being caught. Help them read the name on the note to reveal whose "robe" they snatched.
- RETURN the notes and play again as time permits.

### Option 3: Patience (10 min)

- INSTRUCT the children to sit in a circle.
- LEAD them in several rounds of the following poem and include hand motions. You may want to try different rounds, having just the boys or girls speaking, using a whisper voice, or standing up.

In His Time (by Roy Lessin)

I wait on God to bring *(point to wrist as if wearing a watch)*  
all that he has promised me. *(spread arms open in front with palms up)*

And as I wait, I believe in faith *(hold hands in prayer position)*  
in what I cannot see. *(hold hands in front of eyes, covering slightly)*

- TELL the children to recite this poem in their head or out loud whenever they are having trouble being patient.

### Option 4: Let's Color! (10 min)

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**Supplies:** Crayons or markers, Let's Color! sheet (one per child)

**Teacher Prep:** Print and photocopy the Let's Color! sheet (one per child).

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- GIVE each child a Let's Color! sheet.
- PROVIDE a selection of crayons and/or markers for the children to share.
- DISCUSS this week's Key Idea as the children color.

### Option 5: Praise and Worship (10 min)

"Patience (Herbert the Snail)" by Frank Hernandez, Sherry Saunders Powell

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“Happy All the Time” by Albert Benjamin Simpson, Carol Tornquist  
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## Option 6: Act It Out (10 min)

### Wait, Casey!

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Use two puppets to act out the following short skit. Instruct the children to call out “Be patient” anytime the puppet says, “Wait, Casey!” Practice this a few times before starting.

#### Characters

Alexa

Casey

**Props:** Two puppets

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**Alexa:** Ooh, doesn’t that water look nice and refreshing?

**Casey:** Sure does! Watch me do a cannonball into the pool!

**Alexa:** Wait, Casey!

**Children:** Be patient!

**Alexa:** The lifeguard isn’t here yet, so we aren’t allowed to go in. It could be dangerous.

**Casey:** Aw! It’s hard to wait!

**Alexa:** Let’s do something to get our minds off swimming. How about a treat at the snack shack?

**Casey:** Okay, I’d like a nice, cold lemonade.

**CASEY** *runs off quickly.* **ALEXA** *runs after him.*

**Alexa:** Wait, Casey!

**Children:** Be patient!

**Casey:** (*upset*) What now?

**Alexa:** Don’t you see all those people in line? You can’t just cut in front of them like that. What are you thinking?

**Casey:** I’m thinking this line is too long! Let’s go over to the basketball court.

**Alexa:** Okay, we can come back later for lemonade, I guess.

**Casey:** Great! I’ll race you! Last one there is a rotten egg!

**CASEY** *runs off quickly.* **ALEXA** *runs after him.*

**Alexa:** Wait, Casey!

**Children:** Be patient!

**Alexa:** The basketball court is across the parking lot. We can't just run out without checking for cars. That could be dangerous!

**Casey:** Ugh! You keep telling me to be patient, but it's so hard! I want to do stuff *now*!

**Alexa:** Patience is important, and these are just little things anyway. Did you know there was a man who couldn't walk and he waited thirty-eight years to be healed?

**Casey:** Oh, yeah. I remember that story from the Bible. The man waited for years to go into a special pool to be healed, but all he needed was Jesus to heal him.

**Alexa:** You got it! God wants us to do the right thing, and he wants us to do it at the right time. That's patience.

**Casey:** Hey, speaking of pools—I think the pool is open now.

*CASEY runs off quickly, then stops abruptly. He turns around and waves ALEXA on. ALEXA runs after him.*

**Alexa:** Thanks for waiting up for me this time! Let's go cannonball!

## STEP 4 | Going Home (5 min)

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**Supplies:** Family Page (one per child)

**Teacher Prep:** Print and photocopy the Family Page (one per child).

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- **GIVE** each child a copy of this week's Family Page.
- **SAY**, Give this page to your family when they pick you up. It will remind you to tell your family what you learned today about two people in the Bible who showed patience.
- **HAVE** the children practice telling you about what it means to be patient.
- **REVIEW** this week's Key Verse as well as today's story and Key Idea from the *Believe Storybook Bible* as you wait for the children to get picked up.
- **MAKE** sure each child remembers to take home any activity sheets or craft projects and the Family Page.

























Let's Color! Name: \_\_\_\_\_





# FAMILY PAGE | Lesson 26: Patience

**Bible Basis:** 1 Samuel 24:1–22; John 5:1–15

**Key Verse:** Proverbs 14:29: “Anyone who is patient has great understanding.”

**Key Question:** How does God help me wait?

**Key Idea:** I do not get angry quickly, and I am patient, even when things go wrong.

**Resource:** *Believe Storybook Bible*, Chapter 26, “Patience”

## How to Use This Page

This week, your family can either read the story from the *Believe Storybook Bible* or read the Bible Basis passages from your Bible to help your child remember it. Use the Table Talk questions below to start a discussion around the dinner table, while driving in the car, or just about anywhere. The Living Faith activity is designed to remind your child of the Bible lesson through a drama or other engaging activity. The Extra Mile idea provides interactive ways for your child to connect with the story.

## Table Talk

1. What does it mean to be patient? (Waiting for something you want)
2. When is it hard for you to be patient?
3. How do you feel when someone skips your turn?
4. How can you keep from getting angry when you have to be patient?
5. Who is someone you know who is patient? How can you tell?

## Living Faith

### Option 1

Join your child in acting out the story of David and Saul in the cave. Have fun using couch cushions to build a large, dark cave. As you take on the role of Saul, don an old shirt with a scrap cut almost completely off the back. Have David (your child) hide in the cave as you go looking for him. When you enter the cave to rest, have your child tear the remaining bit of fabric to take a scrap from your shirt. Leave the cave and have David announce what he has done.

## Option 2

Use your child's next bath time to reenact the story of the man at the Pool of Bethesda. Your bath mat can serve as a mat to sit on, and "stirring the water" can be a great way to get a reluctant bather into the water. Be sure to remind your child that it was actually Jesus himself who healed the man and not the healing waters.

## Extra Mile

- Practice this simple poem together or ask your child to perform it for an audience.

### In His Time (by Roy Lessin)

I wait on God to bring  
all that he has promised me.

*(point to wrist as if wearing a watch)*  
*(spread arms open in front with palms up)*

And as I wait, I believe in faith  
in what I cannot see.

*(hold hands in prayer position)*  
*(hold hands in front of eyes, covering slightly)*

- Encourage your child to recite this poem in their head or out loud whenever it is hard to be patient.
- For a fun way to practice patience, buy your child a small plastic toy. Without telling your child about it, put it in a paper cup of water and freeze it. (You may have to freeze half a cup of water first and then add the toy and more water so it freezes near the middle.) On a sunny day, peel off the paper and send your child outside with the frozen surprise. Your child will have to be patient as the ice melts to reveal what's inside!
- Does your child have a particular struggle with patience? Perhaps it's complaining at the grocery store or not sitting quietly in church. Make a game of increasing your child's patience by setting a timer. At first they may only go eight minutes without complaining at the grocery store, but on the next trip they'll have a mark to beat! Challenge them to go ten minutes.
- Any game that requires taking turns is great for teaching patience. In addition to traditional board games, try playing "I Spy" or "Twenty Questions" as a family. Praise your child for being able to wait their turn.