

CITY SG – April 6-7, 2024

Today's Bible Story: The Waiting (A Patience Proverb) • *Proverbs 14:29*

Today's Bottom Line: Waiting can make you wise.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Wait for the LORD. Be strong and don't lose hope. Wait for the LORD.*
Psalm 27:14 (NIRV)

1. To Wait or Not to Wait

Bible Story Review

What You Need: Buzzer (1 per bin)

What You Do:

- Divide your group into two teams.
- Instruct both teams to form a line facing you.
- Tell the kids as we talk about waiting this month, our theme is called cookout, and you will EITHER be asking them a question about the Bible story OR a fun trivia question about cookouts.
- Direct each team to send up a representative to answer a question.
- As a representative from each team comes up, ask a question that is listed below.
- Instruct the kids to hit the buzzer to signal that they want to answer the question.
- The first kid to hit the buzzer and answer the question correctly, wins!
 - If a kid hits the buzzer and does not answer correctly, direct the other team to try to answer the question and earn a point.
- Instruct the teams to send up a new representative each round until you've gone through all the questions.
- Announce the winning team!

Questions: (the answers are in bold)

1. Today we heard about a verse from a book of the Bible known for wisdom. What is the name of that book of the Bible? (**Proverbs**)
2. What was the original name of the famous yellow mustard most of us use? (**A. cream salad brand** or B. yellow cream sauce)
3. What does Proverbs 14:29 call anyone who gets angry quickly? (**foolish**)
4. What was ketchup's first name (A. ketchup or **B. catsup**)
5. What does Proverbs 14:29 say about anyone who is patient? (**They have great understanding.**)
6. What did the largest hamburger on record weigh? (**A. 3,591 pounds** or B. 2,902 pounds)
7. How long did King David wait before he was appointed as Israel's king? (**more than 10 years**)
8. What kind of waiting did Joseph face? (**He waited years after being sold into slavery by his brothers. He was put in prison for unfair reasons, until finally he became second-in-command of Egypt.**)
9. Which of these statements about hot dogs are true? (**A. Hot dogs are an approved space food.** or B. Hot dogs are not permitted in space because of the microgravity.)
10. Who is the perfect example of patience? (**Jesus**)

11. One engineer spent six years examining one attribute of which beloved cookout food? (**A. the crunchiness of a potato chip** or B. the shelf life of sliced cheese)
12. Who was Jesus patient with? (**everyone—friends, family, and even enemies**)
13. What is one way you can show patience this week? (*Answers will vary. Repeat this question, if needed.*)
14. Which cookout food briefly went into extinction during World War 2? (A. noodles for potato salad or **B. potato chips**)
15. How does waiting help us make wiser choices? (*Answers will vary. Repeat this question, if needed.*)
16. Cleopatra, the Queen of Egypt, supposedly credited her good health and beauty to which popular cookout item? (A. mustard or **B. pickles**)
17. Describe a time you had to show patience at school.
18. What state in the United States owns the biggest barbeque pit? (A. South Carolina or **B. Texas**)
19. What's one way you can show patience at home?

2. Waiting Wisely

Application Activity

What You Need: “Waiting Wisely Thermometer” Activity Page (one per kid),

What You Do:

- Give each kid a “Waiting Wisely Thermometer” Activity Page, and pens or markers.
- Read through the acronym on the “Waiting Wisely Thermometer” Activity Page and talk to the kids about how each action can help them wait well.
- Say, “Thermometers can remind us why it’s so important to wait. They can prevent us from having undercooked chicken or help us grill the perfect steak! But, waiting in our everyday lives can be a lot harder than waiting for a piece of chicken, right? Perhaps you’re waiting for a parent to come home from a work trip, anxiously waiting to get your math test grade back, or waiting for what feels like forever for someone to take you to hang out with a friend.
- Ask kids to think about something that’s hard to wait for.
- Encourage them to draw a picture of something they have a hard time waiting for, or write a prayer anywhere on their page, on the front or back of the thermometer, asking God for help waiting.
- Say, Hang this up somewhere so the next time you find yourself in a situation of waiting—whether big or small—visualize the thermometer you made to remind you that **waiting can make you wise.**
- “What are some other ways you can spend your time to help you wait well?” (*Invite responses, like: help someone, encourage someone, ask God to help, etc.*)

3. Wait for the Lord

Memory Verse Activity

What You Need: Bibles, plastic cups, and paper plate (2 per bin)

What You Do:

- Depending on the age/ability of your group, you can either:
 - Give each child a Bible and look up the memory verse together.
 - Read the memory verse to the group.
 - *Wait for the LORD. Be strong and don't lose hope. Wait for the LORD.* Psalm 27:14 (NirV)
- To unpack what it means to “*wait for the LORD*,” ask:
 - Who is “the LORD”? (*God, Jesus*)
 - What do you think it means to “*wait for the LORD*”? (*to trust God, to wait for God's best, to wait for God to help us, to wait for God to show us what to do*)
 - If kids are stuck for ideas, ask, “How did Joseph and David ‘*wait for the LORD*’? (*They kept trusting God even though they had to wait A LONG time for what God promised.*)
- Instruct the kids to sit in a circle with you.
- Hold the paper plate and the cup.
- Say: “One helpful thing we can do while we ‘*wait for the LORD*’ is to help and encourage others.”
- Balance a paper plate on the top of a cup.
- Pass the cup and plate to the kid beside you as you say the first word of the memory verse.
- Instruct the kids to continue passing the cup and plate around the circle, saying the next word of the memory verse each time.
 - The kids will need to be patient as they wait their turn *and* as they carefully pass the cup.
 - Praise kids for helping and encouraging each other.
- Add a challenge by balancing a second cup on top of the plate!
- Say, “God knows that waiting isn’t always easy. That’s why God gives us the Holy Spirit to help us. So, when it’s hard to wait, ask God to help you. And remember: **waiting can make you wise.**”

4. Pray and Dismiss

- God, thank You for giving us hope and help no matter what we’re waiting on. Whether we’re waiting on the news of making the baseball team or remaining patient as we pray for our friend who is sick, we know that You care and will always be with us while we wait. Next time our impatience takes over and we are tired of waiting, help us to slow down. Remind us that **waiting can make you wise.** We love You and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

PARENT PICK UP POINT: As adults arrive to pick up, encourage kids to show off their thermometers, sharing with the grown-ups that **waiting can make you wise.**