



Helping Kids Grow in Patience God's Way

When Waiting Feels Impossible

Lesson Aim:

Children will learn that patience means waiting with a good attitude, trusting God's timing and care.

Scripture Focus:

- And she vowed a vow and said, "O Lord of hosts, if you will indeed look on the affliction of your servant and remember me and not forget your servant, but will give to your servant a son, then I will give him to the Lord all the days of his life, and no razor shall touch his head." (1 Samuel 11)
- "The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you." (2 Peter 3:9, *ESV*)

Connect

- **Connection Point:** Ask: "What's the hardest thing you've ever had to wait for?"
- **Explain:** Everyone has to wait for something, and patience helps us wait with peace instead of frustration.

Teach

- Read or retell Hannah's Prayer and God's Answer (1 Samuel 1:9–20; 2:1–2).

Hannah was a woman who wanted a child more than anything. Year after year, she went to the temple to pray and pour out her heart to God. She didn't stop believing that God heard her, even when her prayers seemed unanswered. Others made fun of her, and the waiting hurt, but Hannah kept trusting that God had a good plan.



Church Lesson | The Fruit of the Spirit: Patience

One year, she prayed so earnestly that Eli the priest thought she was upset. When he realized she was crying out to God, he blessed her and said God had heard her prayer. Hannah trusted God's timing instead of giving up hope.

In time, God gave her a son named Samuel. True to her word, Hannah dedicated him to the Lord's service, showing that her greatest joy was to trust God's will more than her own. Hannah's story shows us that patience isn't passive; it's an act of faith that keeps trusting even when we can't see what God is doing.

- **Discussion Questions:**

1. How did Hannah show patience while she waited for a child?
 2. What do you think helped her keep trusting God's timing?
 3. How does her story help us when we have to wait for something?
- God hears our prayers, even when His answers take time.
 - Patience shows trust in God's timing and care.
 - Waiting helps our hearts grow stronger in faith and love.

Model

- **Teacher Shares:** a time you had to wait for something important and how you learned to trust God's plan instead of rushing ahead.
- **Student Activity:** Invite kids to act out short "waiting with patience" moments like waiting for a turn, a special event, or an answered prayer. Encourage them to show both impatient and patient reactions, then ask which feels more peaceful and why.

Pray

- *"Lord, thank You for always hearing us when we pray. Help us to be patient like Hannah—trusting Your timing, loving others while we wait, and believing that You are always working for our good. Amen."*

Craft/Activity

- **Patience Prayer Jars:** Give each child a small jar and slips of paper. Invite them to write or draw one thing they are waiting for like something at home, school, or in prayer. Encourage them to place the paper inside and use the jar as a reminder to pray patiently, trusting that God's timing is perfect.

Takeaway

- Patience means waiting with a good attitude, trusting God's timing and care.