April 2024



Patience is waiting until later for what you want now.

DAY 1

Read Nehemiah 9:17-18

Can you imagine creating a gold statute with your own hands and then bowing down to pray to it? Can you imagine singing worship songs to your soccer trophy? Sounds easy to say no.

BUT not so fast...The Israelites aren't all that different from you and me. We are all pretty impatient people-especially when we're hungry or tired. When you have to wait, you can become a whole different person. An angry, easily bugged, not-so-nice version of yourself.

But guess what? Even when you become that angry, impatient person, God is still patient with you. God is tender and kind. God is slow to anger and won't leave you, just like God didn't leave the Israelites.

Talk To God

Find something you really love at home. Write on a sticky note, "Talk to God!" and stick it on your favorite thing. Each time you look at it this week, say a quick prayer asking God to help you show patience this week.

DAY 2

Read Psalm 130:5

Guess what? You can't always get what you want the minute you want it. Don't believe me? Think of something you want right this instant. Now snap your fingers. Did you get it? Probably not.

When you have to wait, how do you normally handle it?

Do you whine or complain or stomp your feet and scream?

What if you stopped to think about what's true? The *truth* is God is with you while you wait. You might even find that God has something better in store. Maybe in trusting God, you see that the thing you were waiting for wasn't really the best after all. Or maybe, waiting might help you pray and spend more time with God.

Missing Vowels

Fill in the missing vowels in today's verse. Then read it aloud as a prayer, remembering that God is with you, ready to help.

"Wthll my hrt wt
fr th Lrd t hJp m pt
my hpn hs wrd."

Ps.....Im 130:5, NIrV

put my hope in his word." Psalm 130:5, NIrV Answer Key: "With all my heart I wait for the Lord to help me. I

DAY 3

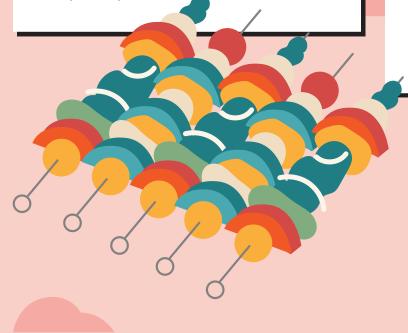
Read Psalm 33:20-22

Have you ever seen a picture of a knight? What does a knight typically wear? Yep— a suit of armor. And what did he carry? That's right! A sword and a shield. The sword was for fighting. The shield was for protection.

No matter what you face, God is with you. When you become impatient about how things will work out, just remember that God is like a shield that keeps you safe. No matter what happens, nothing and no one can separate you from God's love. You can put your hope in God.

Wield a Shield

Grab a piece of paper and draw a simple outline of a shield. Across the front of the shield, write the word "PATIENCE" in large block letters. Decorate your shield and then hang it on your mirror to remind you that God is like a shield. Trust in God and you will receive help to wait patiently.



Read Colossians 3:12

When you read this verse, did you think, "Yeah, God, but you don't know about so and so at school. He's so mean. You want me to be gentle and patient with that guy? And have you met my little brother? He always breaks things and messes with my stuff. It drives me crazy!"

Sound familiar?

The truth is, if we always chose to treat people the way they treat us, this world would be a pretty crazy place. Because you are dearly loved, you should treat people that way too. Because you have been chosen by God, you can show kindness and patience to others.

Clothed with a Patience

Grab a jacket or hoodie you wear almost every day. Grab some tape and write the word "patience" on it. Place this patience tag inside your jacket to remind you to clothe yourself with patience. When you wear it, ask God to help you treat others with patience—the way God always treats you.

When you have to wait, remember what's true.



DAY 4

ARENT CUE

Download the free Parent Cue app AVAILABLE FOR APPLE AND ANDROID DEVICES

Elementary

APRIL WEEK THREE

Elementary

Cookout: It's worth the wait

Patience is waiting until later for what you want now.



MEMORY VERSE

"Wait for the Lord. Be strong and don't lose hope. Wait for the Lord." Psalm 27:14, NIrV

Talk About the Bible Story

Open the Bible together and read Exodus 32:1-35 or watch the video together on the Parent Cue app.

Engagement Questions

- What are three things you believe to be true about God?
- When you have to wait, remember what's true. What are some things that can get in the way of you remembering what's true?
- Who in your life is good at waiting, and how can you learn from them?

Faith and Character Activity

Scan the QR code below for activities to guide kids at every phase to trust Jesus in a way that changes how they see God, themselves, and the rest of the world.

Scan the OR code to get started



Prayer

"Dear God, thank You for being with us when we have to wait. Thank You for putting people around us to help us when we're frustrated or impatient. Please help us to focus on You this week and wait with patience. We love You and we pray these things in Jesus' name. Amen."

Weekly Parent Cues

Cookout: It's worth the wait

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Elementary

ENGAGE IN EVERYDAY MOMENTS TOGETHER

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Morning Time

As your kid starts their day, tell them something good and true about them.



At a meal this week, have everyone at the table answer this question: "What is something you are waiting on right now? What are some things that may make you afraid or unsure? What are some truths that prove that wrong?"



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Drive Time

While on the go, ask your kid: "What is something true about you? What is something not true?" (Give an example: You love baseball. You hate candy.)



Pray for each other: "God, when we are waiting, it's easy to get frustrated, angry, scared, or impatient. Help us to remember that You are always working, and we can trust in You while we wait."

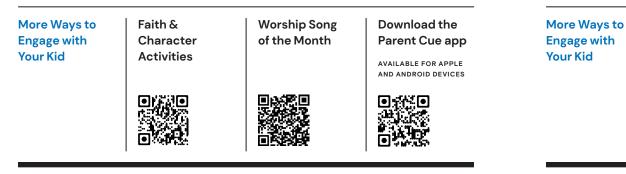


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Faith &

Character Activities

Worship Song of the Month

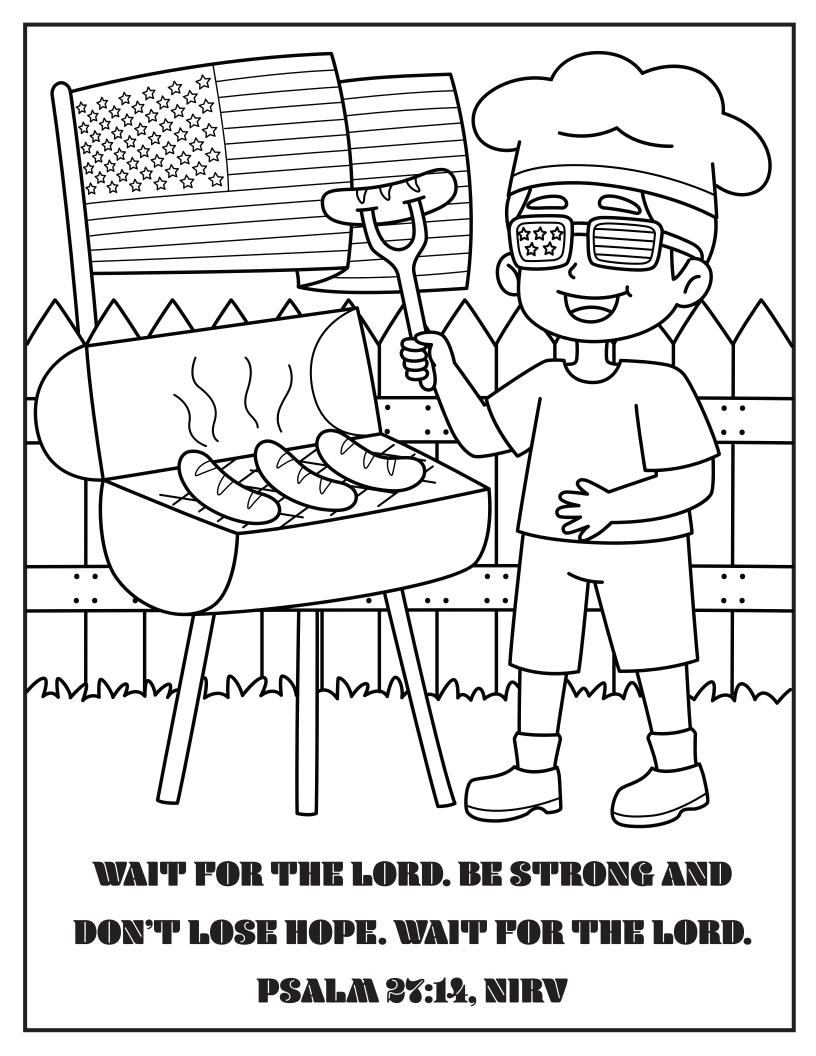
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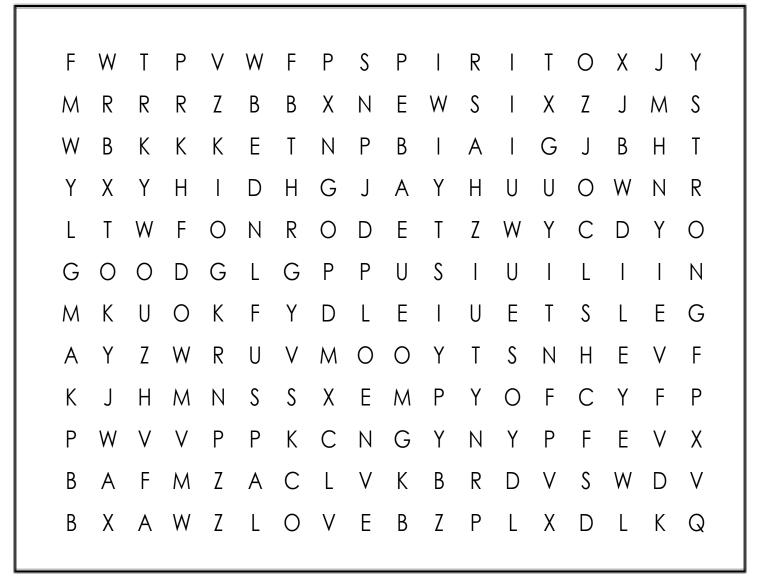








APRIL Z1 – WORD SEARCH



Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, backwards & diagonally throughout the puzzle.

PATIENCE	LOVE	SPIRIT
WISE	GOD	KINGDOM
STRONG	JESUS	GOOD
HOPE	HOLY	NEWS