

June 23, 2019

Bible Story Focus: When Jesus is your friend, He gives you the power to be patient.

Simeon at the Temple • *Luke 2:22-39*

Memory Verse: “I can do everything by the power of Christ.” Philippians 4:13, NIV

Key Question: Who gives you the power to do everything?

Bottom Line: Jesus gives me the power to do everything.

Basic Truth: Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

8:50 – 9:10 / 10:50 – 11:10 GREET

One teacher greets parents and children at the door and places name tag stickers on clip board, while other teacher(s) play with the children with a toy activity (i.e. blocks or trains).

9:10 – 9:15 / 11:10 – 11:15 INTRO ACTIVITY

Lead the children in this activity as an introduction to the theme for Story time.

1. Time Hop

What You Need: Sand timer

What You Do:

During the Activity: Turn the timer over so that you set the timer. When the timer has run out, invite the children to hop. Repeat several times.

What You Say:

During the Activity: (Flip the timer) “This is our timer. Watch the sand until it all runs out. After it runs out, we are going to hop! Keep watching!” (Do activity.)

After the Activity: “Great job! You were so patient! We are going to hear a Bible story about how Jesus helps us to be patient.”

Transition: Move to Worship and Story by walking very slowly to the story area.

9:15 / 11:15 STORY TIME

Walk your class to the Story Room for today's lesson.

9:35 / 11:35 ACTIVITY & CONNECTION TIME**1. Turtle Walk**

What You Need: Floor tape

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Place a 10-foot line of tape on the floor in your activity area.

During the Activity: Line up the children in a single file line at one end of the tape. Encourage the children to walk very slowly, like turtles, along the tapeline as they repeat this month's Memory Verse. Line up again and repeat, this time walking at a normal pace as you recite the verse. Repeat as time and interest allow.

What You Say:

During the Activity: "Do turtles move slowly or quickly? (*Pause.*) Yes! Turtles are VERY slow. Let's walk along our tapeline here on the floor like turtles. As you walk, let's repeat our memory verse. After we walk like turtles, then we'll switch and walk at our normal speed. Okay, ready? Let me see your best turtle walk! *I can do everything by the power of Christ*, Philippians 4:13."

After the Activity: "Was it hard to wait for the person in front of you since he was walking so slowly? (*Pause.*) It took patience! But I have good news. You can do EVERYTHING—even show patience—by the power of Christ. When Jesus is your friend, He gives you the power to be patient. **Who gives you the power to do everything? [Bottom Line] Jesus gives me the power to do everything.**"

2. Line Tangle

What You Need: "Tangle" Activity Page, three different colors of yarn, three chairs, scissors, wall tape, and clear tape

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Tape the pictures to the wall at preschool level in a horizontal line. Be sure the pictures are about six inches apart from each other. Cut about an eight-foot section of each color of yarn. Tape one end of a section of the yarn to each picture. You

should have one color of yarn taped to each picture. Weave the sections of yarn within each other to form a web. Tape the other ends of the sections of yarn to the chairs (one color of yarn per chair).

During the Activity: Invite the children to start at the chairs and follow the yarn to each of the pictures.

After the Activity: Identify the pictures and retell the Bible story with the children.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “We are going to follow a maze to get to special pictures. We have to be really patient and take our time to get to the pictures.”

During the Activity: “Start at the chair (*point*) and work together to follow the yarn. If your chair has a [green] yarn, then you follow the [green] yarn. I cannot wait to find our way to the pictures!” (*Do activity.*)

After the Activity: “You were so very patient today and did a great job finding the pictures. Let’s look at these pictures. These pictures show us that we need patience. This picture (*point*) is of hot soup. We have to be patient and wait for it to cool before we eat it. Our next picture is of a present. We have to be patient and wait to open our presents. The next picture is of a cake. I love cake for dessert! We have to be patient and wait until after dinner for dessert. Simeon had to be patient in our Bible story today. He knew something amazing was going to happen, but he had to wait and be patient. He was patient, and Jesus was born! Jesus gives us the power to be patient. **Who gives you the power to do everything? [Bottom Line] Jesus gives me the power to do everything!**”

3. Pom-Pom Lane

What You Need: Pom-poms, drinking straws (one per child), and floor tape

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Place a five-foot line of tape on the floor in your activity area. Create a parallel line of the same length about a foot from the first to create a lane. Place two or three pom-poms on the floor at one end of the lane.

During the Activity: Pass out a drinking straw to each child, and have children line up at the end of the lane where you’ve placed the pom-poms. Show the children how to blow air through their drinking straws to move the pom-pom along, making sure to keep it inside the tape lines. Let each child have a turn moving the pom-pom all the way down the lane.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Do you see these pom-poms? I have a little challenge for you. I want you to move one of these pom-poms all the way to the other end of our lane here, but you can only move it by blowing air through your straw. It will take patience, but I know you can do it!”

After the Activity: “That was hard but so fun! I love the way you kept going and showed patience. It isn’t always easy to show patience, but we do have help. Jesus gives us the power to be patient. **Who gives you the power to do everything? [Bottom Line] Jesus gives me the power to do everything.**”

4. Duck, Duck, Goose

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Guide the children to sit in a circle. Choose one child to be “It.”

During the Activity: Have “It” walk around the outside of the circle while touching the other children’s heads while saying, “duck.” Ask the child to choose someone and to be the next “It” and choose that person by touching their head and saying, “goose.” Repeat the activity until each child has had a turn to be “It.”

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “Let’s play a fun game. We have to be patient while we are playing this game.”

During the Activity: “We are going to sit in a circle and [child’s name] will be ‘It.’ She will walk around the circle and touch everyone’s head and say, ‘duck, duck, duck.’ (Demonstrate.) When you choose someone to be the next ‘It,’ then you touch their head and say, ‘GOOSE!’ Are you ready?” (Do activity.)

After the Activity: “Great job! You were all so patient! We all had a turn to be ‘It’ because we were all patient. Jesus gives us the power to be patient. **Who gives you the power to do everything? [Bottom Line] Jesus gives me the power to do everything!**”

5. Patient Harry

What You Need: Clear punch cups (one per child), googly eyes (two per child), white school glue, markers, a bag of potting soil, a small plastic shovel, grass seeds, “Parent Note” Activity Page, plastic tablecloths, a pitcher of water, and wet wipes

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Cover the tables with the plastic tablecloths. Place a cup at each seat at the table. Place the white school glue, googly eyes, and markers in the center of the tables.

During the Activity: First, have the children write their names on one side of their cup with the marker. Then encourage the children to glue two googly eyes to the side of their cups and use the markers to draw in a smiley face. When finished, have a volunteer walk around with the shovel and bag of potting soil. Help each child carefully place some soil in the bottom of his or her cup. Then give each child a few grass seeds to place down in the soil.

After the Activity: Collect the cups from each child and add another spoonful of potting soil and a bit of water to each cup. Set cups aside for pick up. Encourage children to wash their hands if a sink is available, or use wipes to clean their hands.

What You Say:

During the Activity: “Today we are going to plant some grass seed in these cups. BUT this won’t just be any old plant! Once the grass starts to grow, you’ll see Patient Harry begin to emerge. First, let’s write our names on one side of the cup. *(Pause.)* Then we need to give Patient Harry some eyes on the opposite side. *(Pause.)* Let’s glue on two googly eyes with the white glue. *(Pause.)* And, of course, Harry needs a nose and a mouth. You can add those with the markers. *(Pause.)* We’ll add some dirt and grass seed, too. *(Pause.)* Once it starts to grow, you’ll see how Patient Harry gets his hair!”

After the Activity: “Make sure you take your Patient Harry home and place him near a window so he can soak up the sun. Water him with a small amount of water when the top of the soil is completely dry. Soon, you’ll see Harry’s hair coming in! It will take patience for sure, but I know you can do it. How do I know? Because Jesus gives you the power to be patient. **[Bottom Line] Jesus gives me the power to do everything! Who gives you the power to do everything? [Bottom Line] Jesus gives me the power to do everything.**”

6. Prayer

SMALL GROUP LEADER (SGL): “It’s Small Group time, today’s story was about a man named Simeon. Simeon knew God was sending someone very special and that God was going to let him meet the special person. But first, Simeon would have to be PATIENT and wait with a happy heart . . . and wait . . . and wait . . . and wait . . . and wait.

“Did Simeon get to meet the special person? *(Pause.)*”

“He sure did! Who was the special person Simeon got to meet? *(Pause.)*”

“Yes! The special person was JESUS! Because God loves us so much, He sent His Son, Jesus, to be our friend forever. Who wants to be your friend forever?”

CHILDREN and SGL: [Basic Truth] “Jesus wants to be my friend forever!”

SGL: “And because Jesus is alive, when we follow Jesus He gives us the power to be PATIENT and wait with a happy heart. Jesus gives us the power to do everything! **Who gives you the power to do everything?”**

CHILDREN and SGL: [Bottom Line] “Jesus gives me the power to do everything!”

SGL: “We have been learning a new Bible verse that will help us remember that Jesus gives us the power to do everything.

(Turn the pages of your Bible to the Memory Verse Card.)

“The Bible verse says, *I can do everything by the power of Christ*, Philippians 4:13.

(Close Bible and lay it down.)

“Christ is another name for Jesus. This verse teaches us that Jesus has the power to help us do everything—like be patient and wait with a happy heart. Would anyone like to pray before I pray?”

(Give each child who wants to pray the opportunity to do so.)

Prayer

SGL: “Dear God, thank You for sending Jesus to give us the power to be PATIENT and wait with a happy heart. Please help [child’s name] be PATIENT and have a happy heart when he waits. *(Repeat for each child.)* I pray that we will follow Jesus so we can love others the way Jesus loves us and have the power to be PATIENT. Thank You for Jesus, God. We love You. In Jesus’ name, amen.”

10:15 / 12:15 DISMISSAL

One teacher stands at the door and checks security tag and asks guardian to sign the check-in label. Other teacher(s) play with the children as they wait to be picked up.