

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.

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.**”

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 (if need to fill more time)

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!**”

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.”

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.