

# 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.

## Introductory Sketch

**What You Need:** Pretend electronic preschool learning game (from previous weeks)

*(Host enters carrying the game. Every couple of steps he/she stops and concentrates really hard trying to draw a straight line on the game with his/her finger.)*

**HOST:** “Wait. I got it. No. That’s a crooked line. It’s got to be straight.

*(Take a few more steps and stop.)*

“That’s it! Stay on the line. Nope. That’s not right. Wow, this is hard.

*(Take a few more steps, stop, and look at the children.)*

“Almost got it! Aww, man. Maybe next time.

“Hi! I’m [your name], and I’m practicing my lines on this fun game my aunt gave me. This new level is the best! You have to trace all these different colored lines. Here, I’ll show you. We can pretend we’re playing the game.

“Hold up your finger up like this. *(Hold up your pointer finger.)* Now pretend there are lines in front of you and you are tracing them. Just follow my finger wherever it goes. Go here. Now go up. Now go down. Now go all around!

*(Continue going in different directions with your finger while encouraging the children to follow. Make zigzag lines, circles, and wavy lines.)*

“Good job! That’s what it is like in my game, only you can’t get off the colored lines. If I don’t follow the lines just right, I don’t go on to the next level, and I have to start all over!

*(Look around like you're looking for someone.)*

“And the very best part of this game is it's a two player game. That means I get to play it with a friend! I am playing this game with one of my friends. She said she would be right back. I have to wait until she gets back before I can take my next turn. That's how it works. She goes and then I go. She goes and then I go.

*(Look around some more.)*

“She should be here by now. Where is she? *(Act very impatient.)* Waiting is hard. The more I have to wait, the more frustrated I get! I just don't like to wait!

*(Look around some more.)*

“I don't know what it taking her so long! She knows I can't play my next level until she plays her level. *(Pause.)* Why is she making me wait so long?

*(Cross your arms and sigh in frustration.)*

“I guess I'll have to go wait in the back for my friend. I don't want to keep you waiting to hear today's Bible story. So let's great ready to sing and hear our story.

### **Worship: Inviting People to Respond to God**

*Engage kids' hearts through dynamic and interactive worship in a Large Group setting.*

**WORSHIP LEADER:** “But before we do that, tell me: **Who gives you the power to do everything?**”

**CHILDREN and WORSHIP LEADER:** *[Bottom Line]* “**Jesus gives me the power to do everything.**”

**WORSHIP LEADER:** “Yes! *[Bottom Line]* **Jesus gives me the power to do everything**, and we're going to learn more about that today. But first, let's sing our song together.

*(Lead children in singing “Power Up,” this month's worship song.)*

**WORSHIP LEADER:** “Wonderful singing, my friends. Tell me: **Who gives you the power to do everything?**”

**CHILDREN and WORSHIP LEADER:** *[Bottom Line]* “**Jesus gives me the power to do everything.**”

**WORSHIP LEADER:** “Yes, indeed, **[Bottom Line]** Jesus gives me the power to do everything. Who can help me remember what we do next? We sang our first song. What do we do now? *(Pause.)* Yes! We say our memory verse. Are you ready to say it with me? *I can do (both thumbs to chest) everything (spread arms wide) by the power (make arm muscles) of Christ (point both hands up),* Philippians 4:13. *(Open hands like a book.)* Let’s do it again.”

**CHILDREN and WORSHIP LEADER:** *“I can do (both thumbs to chest) everything (spread arms wide) by the power (make arm muscles) of Christ (point both hands up),* Philippians 4:13.” *(Open hands like a book.) (Repeat several times.)*

**WORSHIP LEADER:** “Yes! You’ve got it totally memorized now! Way to go! I am so proud of you. We’ve got one more song to sing.

*(Lead children in singing “Dance, Shout, Sing”)*

“So great! I love singing and praising God with you! **Who gives you the power to do everything?”**

**CHILDREN and WORSHIP LEADER:** **[Bottom Line]** “Jesus gives me the power to do everything.”

## **Bible Story**

**What You Need:** Bible, “Baby Bottle Game Button” Activity Page, white cardstock, tape, and the POWER UP game prop from previous weeks

*Option: Provide baby bottle stickers to place on each child as they exit the story area.*

*(The white “Baby Bottle Game Button” should be in the Bible at Luke 2 when Storyteller enters. Storyteller will tape the “Baby Bottle Game Button” beside the “Bird Game Button” on the POWER UP game during the story.)*

*(Storyteller enters carrying a Bible. The POWER UP game is still in the story area.)*

**STORYTELLER:** “Whew! Waiting can be hard, but some things are worth the wait. My name is [your name], and I have a story about a man who had to wait a super long time, and it was SO worth it!

“Do you remember when I told you about how Jesus gives us the power to do everything?”

*(Walk over to the POWER UP game and point to the game buttons as you mention them.)*

“We talked about how Jesus gives us the power to LOVE, have JOY, and have PEACE.

“Our story today is about how Jesus gives us the power to be PATIENT. Patience is being able to wait with a happy heart. Would you like to hear the story? *(Pause.)* Yay!

*(Open the Bible and hold the white “Baby Bottle Game Button.”)*

“Our story begins with a man named Simeon. Simeon loved God, and he knew that God was sending someone very special. I’ll give you a hint about the special person. *(Hold up baby bottle.)* What is this? *(Pause.)*

“Yes! This is a baby bottle. And who uses a baby bottle? *(Pause.)* Right again! A baby uses a baby bottle. When I hold up this baby bottle, I want you to pretend to rock a baby in your arms like this. *(Demonstrate.)* Do this with me.

*(Pretend to rock a baby in your arms.)*

“Good job! Let’s practice doing that. When I hold up the baby bottle, I want you to pretend to rock a baby in your arms.

*(Hold the bottle up and down while prompting the children to pretend to rock a baby in their arms. Once you’ve done it a few times, continue with the story.)*

“Okay, now don’t forget. When I hold up this baby bottle, I want you to pretend to rock a baby in your arms. Got it? Good!

“Now, back to our story. God told Simeon that he would get to SEE this very special person. But Simeon didn’t know WHEN this very special person was going to come. He had to be PATIENT and wait . . . and wait . . . and wait . . . and wait . . . and wait.

“Simeon was SO patient! He didn’t whine like we do sometimes when we’re waiting. We say things like, ‘This is taking soooooo long!’ or, ‘When is it going to be overrrrrrr?’ Have you ever heard someone whine like that?”

“How about you? Raise your hand if you’ve ever whined like that. *(Pause and hold up your hand.)*

“Me too! But not Simeon. He was patient.

“Then, one day, while Simeon was waiting, Mary and Joseph brought baby (*hold up baby bottle*) . . .

*(Pause while the children begin rocking their pretend babies in their arms.)*

“. . . Jesus to the temple. Baby (*hold up bottle and pause*) Jesus was the special person Simeon had been waiting . . . and waiting . . . and waiting . . . and waiting for!

“Baby (*hold up bottle and pause*) Jesus came just like God promised!

“God’s Son, Jesus, was finally here! Jesus had come to be our friend forever! And when Jesus is your friend forever, He gives you the power to be PATIENT and wait with a happy heart.

“Jesus gives you the power to do everything! **Who gives you the power to do everything?”**

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

**STORYTELLER:** “One more time! **Who gives you the power to do everything?”**

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

*(Storyteller closes the Bible and walks the “Baby Bottle Game Button” over to the POWER UP game.)*

**STORYTELLER:** “I am going to put this white baby bottle right here beside the blue bird on our POWER UP game. The baby bottle will remind us that Jesus gives us the power to be patient.

*(Tape the white “Baby Bottle Game Button” onto the game board.)*

“Now we have a baby bottle for PATIENCE, a bird for PEACE, a smiley face for JOY, and a heart for LOVE. Jesus gives us the power to have . . .

*(Point to the heart, smiley face, bird, and baby bottle as you say, “love, joy, peace, and patience.”)*

**STORYTELLER:** “. . . LOVE, JOY, PEACE, and PATIENCE.

“Thank you for helping me today. You are great at rocking babies! Now let’s close our eyes and talk to God.

“Dear God, we want to wait with happy hearts. We want to be patient and not whine and complain when we have to wait. Thank You for sending Jesus to be our friend forever, and give us the power to be patient. We love You, God. In Jesus’ name, amen.

“Okay, friends. It’s time for me to go, but I’ll be back with another story about something else Jesus gives us the power to do. But you’ll have to be PATIENT and wait to see what it is. See you later! Bye!”

*(Storyteller exits with the Bible. Host enters and walks over to the POWER UP game.)*

### **Outro Sketch**

**HOST:** “Whoa. Simeon had to wait a long, long, looooong time! Talk about being patient! But it was totally worth it! Simeon got to see baby Jesus!”

“I know I need to be patient, too, and wait with a happy heart for my friend to play the game with me. It’s going to be so much fun and totally worth the wait.

“I think I’m going to go read more about Simeon while I wait for my friend. That had to be amazing to finally see baby Jesus! I’ll see you next time! Bye!”

*(Host exits while waving goodbye to the children.)*