



Year 1—Quarter 3: God the Holy Spirit

Patience



Every day, we might have to wait or deal with slow things. Some-

times it's little stuff, like waiting for a friend who's moving like a snail when you want to play fast. Or it can be big stuff, like waiting for God to make a sick family member feel better.

When we're good at waiting for the little things, it's like practice for the big waits. It's like if you can wait for your turn on the

swings, you can wait for your birthday to come around!

And if someone is making it hard for us to wait, like they took the last cookie and we're really mad, we should remember how God waits for us. We've made mistakes and haven't always been nice, but God isn't mad at us. Instead, He's super patient and loves us a lot! So when we remember how patient God is with us, it can help us be patient with others, even when it's tough.

So, what did we learn? Being patient is like being a superhero of waiting, and it's important to do it just like God does for us!

Class Opening Activity

Have a few oranges to pass out to the class (or whatever fruit you would like, or another type of snack. You can shape this idea to fit your class). Take out a knife and slowly, slowly begin to slice up the oranges. Take your time! Lots of time! When you notice them becoming impatient...

ASK: Can anyone tell me what patience is? (Allow time for response and different ideas.) The dictionary tells us patience is the bearing of pain, misfortune, or annoyance without anger, irritation, or complaint. Bearing is like holding something very heavy. When you are going through something difficult, it can feel like

you are carrying something very heavy everywhere you go. So patience is going through something very hard, or just something very annoying, without getting angry or complaining.

ASK: What is the opposite of patience? (Impatience!) Did it make you irritated when I was taking so much time to pass out the orange slices to you? What are some things you go through each day that make you impatient? (Write their thoughts on the board.)

Power Point

Patience is a fruit of the Spirit available to all believers as they abide in Christ.

MEMORY VERSE

"But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his immense patience as an example for those who would believe in him and receive eternal life." 1 Timothy 1:16 (NIV).



Year 1—Quarter 3: God the Holy Spirit



Adventures of Moyo the Baby Elephant

Once, in the heart of the lush jungle, there lived a gentle mother elephant named Elara with her playful calf, Moyo. Moyo was a curious little elephant who loved adventures, but his curiosity often led him into mischief.

One sunny day, Moyo spotted a colorful butterfly and decided to follow it, wandering far from the herd. Elara, with her patient heart, followed her little one's tracks. She found Moyo tangled in vines, trying to reach the butterfly perched on a leaf.

With a loving nudge, Elara untangled Moyo, and the butterfly fluttered away. Moyo looked up at his mother with big, apologetic eyes. Elara let out a soft rumble, a gentle reminder that she was always there for him, no matter what.

The next day, Moyo accidentally splashed the entire herd with mud while playing by the river. The other elephants grumbled, but Elara just chuckled and joined in the fun, turning the mishap into a mud party.

Every day brought a new adventure and a little bit of trouble, but Elara's patience never wavered. She knew that with each misstep, Moyo was learning and growing. And in her wise, loving eyes, that was all that mattered.

And so, under the watchful eye of his mother, Moyo thrived, surrounded by love, patience, and the occasional butterfly chase.

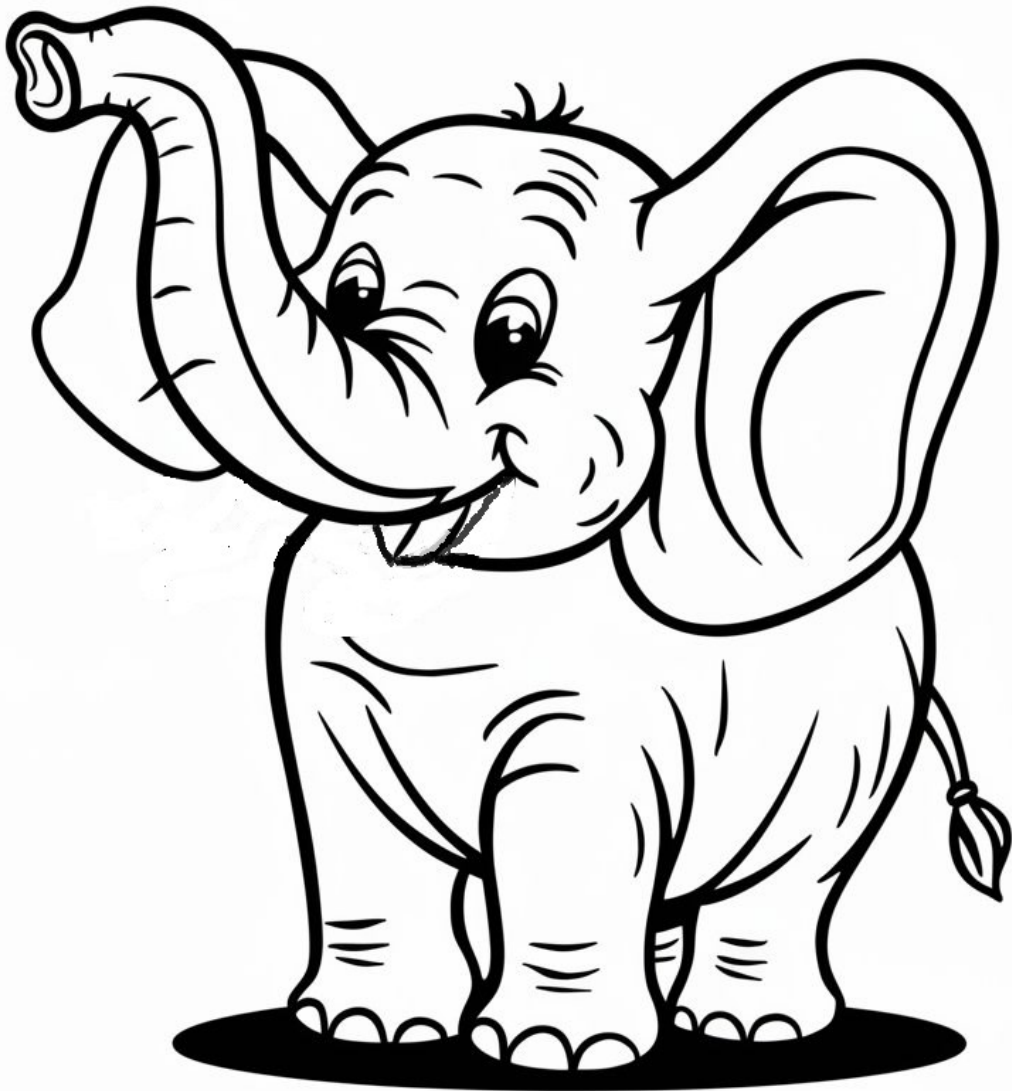


FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

COLORING PAGE

PATIENCE

Elephants are known for their patience.



Take-Home

Summary

Bible Passages:

1 Tim 1:16; Prov 19:11; Col 1:11; 2 Peter 3:15

Main Point:

Patience is a fruit of the Spirit available to all believers as they abide in Christ.

Discuss:

Q: Why is important to wait your turn?

Q: Can you think of a time when being patient helped you or someone else?

Q: How do you feel when you have to wait for something you really want?

Q: What are some ways we can practice being patient at school or at home?

A Gospel-Centered Approach:

- God is all the fruit rolled into one amazing Being.
- Jesus is all of God's attributes displayed in a single human being.
- Kids will only be good when they fall in love with the good God Who loves them enough to die for them.

Explore the Bible

Read the following Bible passages. After reading each passage, ask one child to tell you in their own words what that verse teaches us about patience.

- Proverbs 19:11
- Colossians 1:11
- 1 Timothy 1:16
- 2 Peter 3:15

Family Activity

Memorize together 1 Timothy 1:16, "But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his immense patience as an example for those who would believe in him and receive eternal life." (Use hand motions or write it on the board, erasing one word at a time until everyone is able to say it together without seeing it.)

Apply and Pray

Spend time in prayer together. Remember the specific situations your children are going through. Invite them to share their needs and praises. Praise God for the fruit of the Holy Spirit, the patience we are able to have because He lives within us.