

SABBATH SCHOOL

Preteen Sabbath Instruction Program — Teacher's Outline

Level 5 • Unit 9 • Week 4

PATIENCE

OBJECTIVE:

To learn the importance of patience and see why it is a fruit of God's Spirit.

ATTENTION GETTER:

Ask: How many of you like to stand in line? How many of you like being in a traffic jam? How many of you like waiting to be served in a restaurant?

BIBLE LESSON:

Ask : Do you remember the story of Joseph?

Do: Paraphrase the basic story of Joseph, which begins in Genesis 39. Concentrate on the part when Joseph was put into prison unjustly.

Ask: Was it wrong for Joseph to want to get out of prison? What did Joseph do to try to get out?

Do: Read Genesis 40:1-14. Mention how it was not wrong for Joseph to ask for help in being released.

Ask: Why do you suppose God allowed the butler to forget Joseph (verse 23)? [Give students a chance to come up with some reasons it might have been good for Joseph to remain in prison.]

Ask: What is the definition of patience? [Patience n. 1. the bearing of provocation, annoyance, misfortune, or pain without complaint, loss of temper, or anger. 2. an ability or willingness to suppress restlessness or annoyance when confronted with delay. 3. quiet, steady perseverance; even-tempered care; diligence.]

Say: It's important to know that patience is more than just "waiting."

Ask: What is the purpose of patience in our lives? [Give the students a chance to give some benefits of patience, such as avoiding accidents, showing courtesy, developing character, etc.]

Read: Romans 5:3 "But we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance [patience in the King James Version]; and perseverance, character; and character, hope. Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit [which] was given to us."

James 1:2 "My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing."

Ask: What does "have its perfect work" mean?

Do: Explain that God helps us develop character when we patiently wait for something. Patience is performing a work in our lives.

Ask: Why would God want Joseph to develop character? (He was going to rule Egypt under Pharaoh.)

Do: Mention that we are going to rule someday as well and we need to be patient in trials.

Read: Acts 7:20-25.

Do: Point out that Moses had good intentions, but he was not waiting for God's time. He needed more time to grow before he could lead the Israelites out of Egypt.

Conclude by showing that all important things take time. That is why we need patience.

LESSON APPLICATION:

Ask the students to share some things that are hard for them to be patient with. Then discuss how they can wait more patiently.

MUSIC:

Sing "God Is My Rock, My Salvation," page 60 in the United Church of God hymnal.

MEMORY VERSE:

Psalm 40:1 "I waited patiently for the LORD; and He inclined to me, and heard my cry."

family activity

THE POINT:

To learn the importance of patience and see why it is a fruit of God's Spirit.

ASK ME...

To tell how God taught Joseph patience.

Discuss ways in which God shows His patience with mankind. Also discuss circumstances that try our patience as individual family members and how we can overcome those situations.

MEMORY VERSE:

Psalm 40:1 "I waited patiently for the LORD; and He inclined to me, and heard my cry."