

## Waiting on God – practicing patience

**OBJECTIVE:** To read and discuss what God says about patience.

**Opening Prayer:** *God who is always present, be with us now as we learn about how you teach us to be patient. Help us to pause and to wait as we are precious to You. May all the things we feel be put into Your loving hands so we might have peace in this uncertain time. Amen.*

**Feasting on the Word:** Genesis 12:1-5, then 17:15-17, then 21:1-3 (Abraham's patience)  
Ephesians 4:2 1 Thessalonians 5:14-15

Family Discussion:

- What promises did God make to Abraham when he was 75 years old?
- How old was Abraham when his son, Isaac, was finally born?
- So, how long did Abraham have to wait for God's promise to start coming true?
- God promised to make Abraham's family into a great nation.
- How long do you think it took for that promise to come true? (days? Months? Years? Centuries?)

Read what Hebrews 6:13-15 says about Abraham! We are waiting right now, is there anything that would help make waiting easier? What can you do now to make this waiting easier? *Discuss some examples.*

Sometimes, to have patience means to wait for something to happen, like Abraham did. Other times, to have patience means to be tolerant of other people. What does Ephesians 4:2 and 1 Thessalonians 5:14-15 mean? Think of some situations when it is hard to be patient with a family member. How can you show patience to your family?

Activity

*There are two options, feel free to do whichever one best fits your time and needs. Also the other activity might be a nice touch point mid-week if you are looking for something to do as a family.*

OPTION 1

### **Magazine Art Memory Word/Verse**

#### ***Materials Needed***

- \* Stock Card Paper (3-4 same sized index card size 3x5 or 4x6)
- \* Assorted Magazine Cut-out Letters OR Sticker Letters
- \* Paper Cutter/ scissors
- \* Glue or clear tape (depending on what you have available)

## Directions

1. Look through the magazines to find bigger letters, as you will be making mini-work collages of thematic words from the scripture lessons.
2. Cut out a variety of letters
3. After reading the verses, select a key word that describes each passage, (examples: Patient, Kind, Wait, Promises, Fulfilled, Answers, etc)
4. Once you have those key words, find the letters from the magazine cuttings and glue them to the cardstock to make the words.
5. On the back of the cards/cardstock, write the verse that made you think of the word on the front. When finished there will be 3-4 cards with verses on oneside and magazine words on the other.

OR

OPTION 2

## Family Proverbs

### Materials Needed

- Paper or index cards
- Bibles
- Something to write with (pens, markers, crayons, etc)

A proverb is a wise saying. Read these two proverbs about patience: Proverbs 14:29 and 15:18.

Now let each family member, make up his or her own wise saying about patience. If there are younger children, this can be done altogether. Consider writing the “homemade” proverbs on sheets of paper and hanging them somewhere where everyone can be reminded about living out patience.

**Closing prayer:** *God who waits with us in our waiting. Help us to be patient like Abraham. Help us to remember that when we are bored and frustrated, you are with us and you fulfill your promises. Thank you for our time together to learn and grow together as a family. Amen.*