

THE GREATEST I AM LOVED

ELEMENTARY
all
star
kids Feb
2026

February 15, 2026

I Am Loved
Elementary Leader Guide

the place for kids to take
their first steps with jesus.

WIN

God's love is patient. In 2 Peter 3, Peter reminded believers that waiting for Jesus is part of God's loving plan. Each day God waits is another chance for people to know and follow Him. Kids can have hope, trusting God's patient love is at work.

BIBLE- While We Wait- 2 Peter 3:1-18

TOOLS

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SOCIAL TIME

The first 10 minutes as kids arrive is a very important time in your small group. Because of this, we provide you with intentional activities to engage their interests and help lead into a great discussion. All of this is so that "boredom" is not an excuse. Everything is only available one time.

Every week you have:

- Roku Games to play together that are changed out monthly.
- 2 month specific games or group activities.
- Plus 2 Social Activities. ** Use one now and save the other for an incentive to participate in all the activities.

Games and Music (10 minutes)

What You Need: Instruction Page, Game Sets, Roku Game Instruction Page, "Back to Back" cards (1 set per group), painter's tape, Feb 15 Social Video

What You Do:

- Play worship songs and other songs available on Roku during the Social Game or while kids are playing.
- Using the supplies and game instruction page, choose one game to play with the kids today.
- As you are playing, use this as a time to call each kid by name and learn their names well.

Say: That was a fun game to get us ready to watch our Bible video. Let's sit and listen to our story today."

Bible Story Video (10 minutes)

Bible Story Recap- Say This

Imagine that someone was going around your city and telling people something that was not true. That would be very upsetting! You would need to warn everyone about this person and what they were teaching. Everyone, say, "Warn everyone!" (Warn everyone!) These kinds of people that teach untrue things are called false teachers. Everyone, say, "False teachers!" (False teachers!) In our Bible story, Peter taught people about God, and he warned other Christians about false teachers who were saying that Jesus would never come back. Peter had been with Jesus when He promised He would return, so Peter told the Christians not to listen to the false teachers but to listen to God's Word instead. Everyone, say, "God's Word!" (God's Word!) Peter taught the Christians that God is not being slow to keep His promise of returning. God is being patient because He does not want anyone to die without knowing Jesus. God wants all people to turn from their sin and trust Him. God's love is patient! Everyone, say, "God's love is patient!" (God's love is patient!)

The Gospel Video (10 minutes)

Gospel Connection: (refer to the 4 Circles poster in your small group spaces)

Circle 2- We need God's patient love because sin is when we choose our own way instead of God's way, and it separates us from Him. We can't fix sin by ourselves, so we need Jesus to rescue us and bring us back to God.

Circle 3- God's incredible love was put on display when He rescued us from sin. God sent His Son, Jesus, to die on a cross and take the punishment for our sin. Jesus came back to life on the third day, showing that He is more powerful than sin and death! Jesus is the true King of the world, and He makes the way for us to have a relationship with God.

Circle 4- Jesus told Peter and that one day He would return and make all things new. All people who turn from sin, ask God for forgiveness, and trust and follow Jesus get to have a new life forever with God!

Circle 1- That is right! When Jesus promised He would return, He promised to make everything new and make it so we can enjoy a perfect relationship with God again. God does not want anyone to die without knowing His Son, Jesus. While we wait for Jesus to return, we can know that God's love is patient and He wants more people to know and love Him.

God's love is patient, and He wants everyone to have the opportunity to know Him, including you! While we wait for Jesus to return, we can be a part of sharing God's love and the truth about Jesus with others. God loves each of us so much that He is patiently waiting for us to turn from our sins and walk with Him. Everyone, say, "I am loved!" (I am loved!) Say, "**God's love is patient!**" (**God's love is patient!**)

God, thank You that Your love is patient. While we wait for Your return one day, help us tell other people about Your patient love. Thank You for sending Your Son, Jesus, to die and rise again, so that we can be forgiven from our sins when we trust in You. Thank You for loving us.

We love You. Amen.

Sweet Stacks

Big Goal: Learn about the patient love of God, which Peter taught in the Bible story.

Leader Prep: Open the tops of the boxes of candy hearts in advance. Print the “Allergy Alert” printable and draw attention to the potential candy heart allergies. Set out the supplies.

Supplies: Candy heart boxes (1 per child), “Allergy Alert” printable (1 per group)

What To Do: Today, we get to play a game called “Sweet Stacks!” Everyone, say, “Sweet Stacks!” (Sweet Stacks!) Great job! To play this game, each of you will hold out your arm over the table *without* letting it touch the table. (Demonstrate.) Then I will hand you a box of candy hearts, and you will try to stack the candy pieces, one on top of the other, on your arm in order to make the highest stack you can. (Demonstrate.) The group member with the highest stack that does not fall wins! Are you ready? 3-2-1! Let’s get stacking!

Keep It Going: Allow the kids to stack their candy hearts on top of their heads.

Leader Tip: Allow the kids to place their candy boxes on a table or desk when they are not using them. Candy hearts will also be used in “Candy Walk” and “God’s Love Is Sweet.” Consider only allowing kids to eat candies after the final activity, ensuring that none of the candies have touched the floor.

Loud And Clear: We had to wait patiently as we stacked our candy hearts with slow and steady hands, not wanting our stack to fall. In our Bible story today, we learned that God’s love is patient. Peter explained that Jesus will come back one day, and that we must wait patiently for His return. God is patiently giving more people the chance to enjoy His love and trust Jesus to rescue them from sin. While we wait, we get to tell other people about God’s love so they might believe in Jesus too! Say, “God’s love is patient!” (God’s love is patient!)

Let’s chat about this more by looking at some questions that make us think deeper.

TALK ABOUT IT

Discussion Questions:

- What is something that can be hard to wait for? (Allow kids to answer and then share your own answer.)
- If you put a marker dot on a piece of filter paper and put that paper in water, the color would start to move up the paper. However, it would take a long time! The waiting would be worth it though because it would make the paper beautiful in the end. Just like it would take time for the color to spread, God's love patiently waits for more people to come to know Him. How does knowing this truth remind us that **God's love is patient?** (Allow kids to answer and then share your own answer.)
- The Bible tells us that we are loved by God, because His love is patient. Let's open our Bibles to **2 Peter 3:8-9** and read about it together. (Invite kids to open their Bibles. Read the passage aloud or invite a kid who volunteers to read the passage aloud. Be sure to have Bibles available for kids who need one. Help kids find the passage so everyone can follow along together.) Peter taught Christians that God's timing is different than ours. God's promise of coming back is not late, but He is patient because He wants everyone to turn from sin and follow Him. How can we trust in God's patient timing, even when it is different than our timing? (Allow kids to answer and then share your own answer.)
- While we wait patiently for Jesus to return one day, we get to tell others about God's great love for them so that they may trust in Jesus as their Savior too! Who we can talk to about Jesus? (Allow kids to answer and then share your own answer.)
- The Bible tells us that we are loved by God, and His love is patient with us. God's patient love truly is the greatest love we could ever receive. What is something you learned today?

WRAP UP

Is there anything you have questions about? (Allow kids to answer, and share your own answer.) Let's pray and talk to God. (Lead the group in prayer. Consider using the following prayer prompt.)

God, thank You that Your love is patient because You desire for all people to turn from their sin and follow You. Thank You for sending Your Son, Jesus, to live a perfect life here on earth, die on the cross, and then rise again so that we can be forgiven and have a restored relationship with You. Thank You that one day Jesus will return and make all things new. In the meantime, help us tell other people about You. Thank You for Your patient love, which is the greatest love we could ever receive. We are so thankful. Amen.

I hope each of you is reminded that you are loved by God! God sent His Son, Jesus, to come to earth to live a perfect life, die on the cross, and then rise again from the grave so that we can be forgiven and have a restored relationship with Him!

GOING HOME

Pass out the coloring pages for kids to take home. Greet families as they arrive and tell them something about their child you saw today. Say goodbye and call everyone by name.