

I Want to Know You...The Attributes of God
#23--God is Patient

HOOK: Have you ever been frustrated because you wanted a snack “right now,” but Mom told you to be patient and wait? Did you whine a bit? Or, have you ever wanted to play with a certain toy, but you had to wait your turn and let the other person play first? It sure is hard to be patient sometimes.

BOOK: But our perfect God isn't like us. He is very PATIENT. We see evidence of His patience when we read the story of Saul in the Bible. Saul did not believe in Jesus. In fact, Saul bullied and even killed people who followed Christ! As you can imagine, God was not happy with Saul. The Lord could have destroyed him in one fell swoop, but instead He was patient and merciful to Saul. Jesus appeared to him, proving He is real, and Saul finally understood that he had been wrong. He then believed in Jesus and stopped his wicked ways. Saul was given a new name, “Paul”, and he began a new life in Christ. Paul became a very godly man and wrote many books in the Bible. He tells us: “...**But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his immense patience...**” 1 Tim. 1:16b “Immense” means “huge,” “great,” “enormous.” God has a huge amount of patience with us!

LOOK: Boys and girls, Jesus came into the world to save sinners! Saul was a sinner--he did terrible things against God--and we are sinners, too. We may not act as Saul did, but we still fall short of doing the right thing 100% of the time. Jesus came into the world to save us and He is patient with us--patient for us to accept, obey and love Him. And when we do, we become more like Him!

TOOK: God wants us to be patient like He is, but we need His help. It's so easy for us to lose our patience and become frustrated or angry with others. Today, try practicing patience with your family! When you are tempted to whine because you aren't getting your way or you want to say something hurtful to a family member, STOP! Take a deep breath, thank God that He is immensely patient with *you* and ask Him to help you to be patient with others.

Bible 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...**” 1 Tim. 1:16b

Prayer: “Dear Lord, thank You that You were patient with Paul and You are patient with us! Help us to be patient with others like You are. Amen.”

The Attributes of God: PATIENT



what we
learned

Saul did not believe in Jesus. In fact, Saul bullied and even killed people who followed Christ! As you can imagine, God was not happy with Saul. The Lord could have destroyed him in one fell swoop, but instead God was PATIENT and merciful to Saul. Jesus appeared to him, proving He is real, and Saul finally understood that he had been wrong. He then believed in Jesus and stopped his wicked ways. Saul was given a new name, "Paul", and he began a new life 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..."
1 Tim. 1:16b



parent/child
activity

Today your child was encouraged to practice patience--starting at home with the members of his/her family! On a piece of paper, make a simple Patience Chart for the week. Have your child decorate it and post it where it can be easily seen. For the next week, draw a star or put a sticker on the chart each time you "catch" your child being patient with something or someone. (Do not record the times he loses his patience. This is for the purpose of positive reinforcement only!)



daily prayer

"Dear Lord, thank You that You were patient with Paul and You are patient with us! Help us to be patient with others like You are. Amen."

the learning
TLC
continues