

PARENT GUIDE

Lesson 3.4: Patience

JOURNEY

WITNESSES

▶ SCRIPTURE READING

2 Timothy 2:14-26

SUMMARY:

We live in a world of instant gratification. The faster the better. It seems that in every way we have a greater capacity to have more and we have it faster than ever. Can such a mentality work when it comes to being a witness? In Paul's second letter to Timothy, he reminds Timothy to be patient. Be patient with those who will not listen and those who will purposefully cause trouble and controversies—patience for the sake of the gospel. Paul's encouragement to be patient applies to each of us as we continue on this journey of becoming an effective witness of the risen Christ.

Over the course of their lives, students will engage in all kinds of conversations. They may need supernatural amounts of patience as they slowly and carefully lead someone down a path that takes him or her to Christ. Still other conversations may be a one-shot opportunity. However, the same patience is required. This week students are talking and thinking about how preparedness also means using words that are gracious, that we should be others-focused, and that we should have an attitude of patience as we engage in conversation.

▶ DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Talk to me about the most interesting thing you learned from this week's lesson.
- Have you ever given up sharing the gospel with someone?
- How do you balance sharing the truth with someone and respecting them when they aren't ready to hear you?
- How do you feel and react when you feel pressured?
- Tell me your next steps based on what you've learned. How can I help?

▶ CORE VERSE

Proverbs 25:15

▶ CORE CONCEPTS

Leading others to faith and trust in Christ often requires persistence and patience.

Long-suffering: Patience despite trouble