

Check your fruit

Part 4- Patience

Have you ever waited for your Birthday and it seemed like it was taking forever to get there? You might feel this way at Christmas too, or when you are having a special guest visiting you from your home country. We don't like to wait do we? We want that day to be here right now. Waiting is a fruit of the spirit that is called long suffering, or patience. Can you say patience? That is a big word that really means to wait for something.

Joseph is a person in the Bible that really had to learn how to wait. He was promised by God at an early age that he was going to be the ruler of his brothers. His brothers were really mean to him and sold him to be a slave. Wouldn't that be scary? He was sold to a business man whose wife was mean to Joseph. The business man put Joseph in jail. While he was in jail he helped some men that used to work for the king. Those men had dreams and Joseph told them what they meant. Even though he helped them— they forgot about him. Later the king needed help figuring out what his dream meant. Joseph was remembered again. He helped the King and the king was so happy he made him second in command. There was a shortage of food everywhere. Joseph's brothers and father had to come to Joseph to be able to buy food. His dreams did come true but it took a long time to happen. God was building patience in Joseph's life. That is a hard thing to learn isn't it? This week pray that Jesus will help you to be contented to wait on him!

1. What is something that you have had to wait for recently?
2. How did that make you feel? Do you like to wait for things?
3. Why do you think Jesus wants us to learn patience?

Color this picture of Joseph
when he was a little boy!

**“BUT THEY THAT WAIT UPON
THE LORD SHALL RENEW THEIR
STRENGTH.” ISAIAH 40:31**

