



## Fruit of the Spirit

### Intro Lesson I

"But the fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control." Galatians 5:22-23

### Lesson Time

Supplies:

Ball (1 per bin)

- Have everyone sit in a circle. Tell the children that you are going to use the ball to play a getting to-know-you game. When you roll the ball, you should say your name. (Roll the ball to a child and say your name. Then instruct that child to say his/her name as he rolls the ball to someone. Once every child has had a chance to say his/her name, switch the game up and instead of saying your own name, you will say the name of the child you're rolling the ball to.
- Remind children of rules/expectations during quest time:
  1. Get to know God
  2. Respect others
  3. Obey your leaders
  4. Wait your turn...and try your best!

Our memory verse for Quest is "But the fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control" Galatians 5:22-23. The verse says *fruit* of the Spirit, not *fruits*, even though it sounds like there is more than one thing. God is a lot of things like holy, faithful, creator, loving, judge, and more. He is one God and He is gentle, and faithful, and loving. He is all of them together, all of the time. His "fruit" is the same way. When we follow Jesus, His Spirit's fruit comes out of us in the way we live our lives. We cannot pick and choose which "piece of fruit" we want to live out – each aspect makes up one whole. They all go together.

We should not say, "I will love today, but I cannot be patient." Or "I will be good today but I am not gentle." When we choose to follow Jesus we choose ALL OF THESE ASPECTS of the fruit and we can only have this fruit if we have God's Spirit with us. And as we choose to live our lives for Jesus our

fruit is good and it grows. That is why the verse says “the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control” because all these attributes work together as one to make us more like HIM. The Spirit produces good “fruit” in our lives that we can share with others like a tree produces good fruit. “A tree is identified by its fruit. If a tree is good, its fruit will be good. If a tree is bad, its fruit will be bad.” (Matt 12:33) God’s fruit is good and if we follow his direction and choose to have a relationship with Him, then His spirit will produce good fruit in us.

## Prayer Time

Dear God, help us to be more like You. We ask that Your Spirit change our hearts and make us more like You with love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Thank You for creating us to be in Your image!

## Activity Time

The goal of this time is to utilize a variety of engaging activities –passive and active play, crafts, application, and more – to reinforce what was taught in the lesson. While you may not get to or through every activity, we encourage you to complete the “Take-Home” activity so children leave with a tangible reminder of what was discussed today.

If numbers are high and/or time and space allow, you may want to use a center format: divide the class into groups (one for each activity) and rotate through the centers after an allotted time.



### Take-Home: Fruit Basket Craft

Supplies:

Worksheet with basket (1 per child)

Set of fruit (1 set per child)

Glue sticks

Scissors

Give each child a worksheet and a set of fruit. Have them cut out each aspect of the fruit of the Spirit and then glue that “piece” of fruit into the basket. Make sure to take this time to help them get to know each other and the fruit as they glue them on.



### Kitchen

Supplies:

Basket of pretend food

Play kitchen (if available)

Children work together to make a meal for one of the leaders. Have the leader encourage sharing and cooperation while making their pretend meal.



### Fruit of the Spirit Match Game

Supplies:

Fruit of the Spirit Match Game (1 per bin)

Put the fruit and virtues out on the floor, fruit side up. Have children take turns turning two over to see if they have a match of “love,” “peace,” “patience,” etc. Two of a fruit will have different attributes on the backside.



**Play-Doh**

Supplies:

Play-Doh

Fruit-shaped cookie cutters (various per bin)

Children play with Play-Doh, using fruit cookie cutters. Go over each aspect of the fruit as they use the fruit cutters to make shapes.



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