



SEEK FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD AND HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS...MATTHEW 6:33

Fruit of the Spirit

Intro Lesson 2

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

Lesson Time

Go over memory verse: "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control." Galatians 5:22-23. This fruit comes from God. We cannot have love without having joy and peace. And we cannot have gentleness without self-control and peace. Remember, all of the parts of the fruit go together and they are produced in us when we choose to follow Christ. We cannot have this kind of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control on our own. We get it from the Holy Spirit. Living by the Spirit is different than living by the flesh. When we live by the flesh we are living as WE would want to live and it causes us to sin. Sin is doing what we want to do when we want to do it, rather than doing what God would have us do.

Who do you think knows what is best for you - you or God? That's right, God does. He knows all things, He is in control of all things and He loves you and knows what is best for you more than anyone. So when we choose to live by the Spirit and follow Christ, we should choose to do what God would have us do and choose to say NO to sinful things. We let the Holy Spirit show us the way. Sometimes we don't want to be patient when we are waiting in line at the store. If we choose to live by the Spirit, God will help us be patient.

Sometimes we don't want to share our favorite toy with our neighbor when he/she comes over. If we choose to live by the Spirit of God, He will help us to be kind and share our toy with our neighbor. Living by the Spirit does not just mean being a nice person. It means that you allow God to help you act as He would act even when it is not very easy to. Living by the Spirit is NOT always easy, but with God, we can do it!

Prayer Time

Share prayer requests and pray together.

Dear God, help me to follow You and live by Your Spirit, even when it is not so easy. Help me to be loving, joyful, peaceful, patient, kind, good, faithful, gentle, and self-controlled. Thank You for loving me!

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 Tree Craft

Supplies:

Tree printout (1 per child)
Fruit stickers (3-4 per child)
Bag of brown paper scraps (1 bag per bin)
Bag of green paper scraps (1 bag per bin)
Glue sticks

Have the children color the tree. Then have them glue small scraps of green paper to the top to look like leaves. Give each child a couple stickers to put on the top of the tree. And lastly, help them glue the brown paper to the trunk. Go over the memory verse with the children.



Fruit Race

Supplies:

Lego blocks

Let the children work together while playing Lego blocks. Talk to them about how the different aspects of the fruit cannot work apart from each other. They work together much like Lego blocks. One block by itself is not very useful but many Lego blocks can make something when put together. If we are loving but not kind how would that work? It cannot. If we put them all together we can show other people who God is by how we live.



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.



Spirit Vs. Flesh Game

Supplies:

Hula-hoops (2 per bin)

Picture of fruit basket (1 per bin)

Picture of people (1 per bin)

Game instructions (1 per bin)

Play the "Spirit Vs. Flesh Game" with the kids.



Name Game (Played like Duck, Duck, Goose)

The children sit around in a circle, facing each other. One child is chosen to be "it" first. The child who is "it" stands up and walks around the outside of the circle tapping each child on the head and saying their name (instead of Duck). At some point "it" should tap a child on the head and say "Quest" (instead of Goose). The chosen child must now jump up and chase the first child around the circle, trying to tag "it" before he can sit down in their place. If he succeeds at tagging "it", "it" has another go. If he fails to tag "it", he takes over as "it". (Example: "Danny, Bradley, Mary, Kate, Quest!")



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