

Title & Passage

Notes: This is more similar to the format we will be switching to. However, it is not complete as we are working on some cool additions :)

If it's in a box - it's more of an explanation / routine. If it's next to a star ★ - this is something that will probably change between lessons and/or is something you should say to the kids. I just wanted to make sure we had a way to give tips and the lesson in one doc, but also make it a bit more reader friendly and not just repeating huge chunks of text in each lesson.

Introduction:

Context: Give the kids some connection between the last few lessons and today's lesson.

- ★ Last week, we talked about how Jesus called Saul to stop persecuting believers and to follow Him. Saul was blinded for a few days and then was able to see again. God used that to help Saul see that He was real and Jesus is a part of God's plan. After that, Saul was called Paul and he wrote to many churches and people all over the area. He wrote them encouragement and wrote them letters to help them follow Jesus more truly and closely. Paul wrote 13 of the 27 New Testament books. Our memory verse is one of his most famous set of verses and they tell us how to live.

Story: Read the story ahead of time. Practice it. For the younger grades, feel free to summarize, if needed. It's okay to reference the story as you are telling it, but the goal is to know the story well enough that you don't have to read it word for word :) And, we encourage you to have your Bible open during the telling of the story, so the kids know where this story came from.

- ★ When we put our faith in Jesus as our Savior, the Holy Spirit comes to live in us. The Holy Spirit guides us and helps us know how to love Jesus and what He would want us to do. He also "plants seeds" in us that begin to grow as we know Jesus better and draw closer to Him.

Let's talk about seeds a bit. When we plant seeds, we don't immediately have a plant. We don't even see that plant the next day. Or the day after that. And, if we plant seeds for something that gives us fruit, we are going to have to be even more patient. First, the seed sprouts. We may only see a little leaf or two. Eventually, it grows into a tree or a vine. Much later we will see flowers and eventually fruit will come from the places where flowers once were. This all takes time.

But what if we don't take care of the planted seed? That seed needs good soil and water. When the seed sprouts, it needs sunshine. The plant will always need good soil and water and sunshine.

It is the same with the seeds that the Holy Spirit plants in us. When we place our trust in Jesus, we may not see the fruit of the Spirit for a little while. Then, we will see the beginnings of growth. Eventually, we will see the fruit.

But what needs to happen to keep the fruit coming?

We must be "planted" in good soil. Do you know what the Bible says about being planted in good soil? In the Gospel, Jesus talks about seed sown in different kinds of soil. (Matthew 13:3-8, Mark 4:3-8 and Luke 8:5-8) He told us that the seeds sown in good soil grew up and yielded much fruit.

So, what is "good" soil? *You* are good soil when you hear the Word of God and hold tightly to it with an honest and good heart. (Luke 8:15)

How do we water the seed and make sure it gets sunshine? Reading God's Word, the Bible to learn more about Jesus is one way. Praying to Him and drawing closer to Him is another way. Listening to teachers who can tell us more about Jesus and why we should love Him is another way. What way is best? We need all of them. We need to "abide" in Him. Continually. Not just sometimes.

All Christians get all the fruit. The fruit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. It's not that one person gets love and another joy. And then someone else gets peace. God gives us all of them! What a gift!

And you know what happens when people around us see the fruit? They start to understand that we have that fruit because we love Jesus. It is a way that we can help the world know Jesus.

- ★ **Christ Connection:** Jesus' work on the cross was an important part of God's plan to save people from sin. Now, God wants people to share the Story of God and His love for everyone. In today's story, we are reminded that when we love Jesus, we show His fruit, and that helps others learn about what Jesus is like.

Follow Up: As a church, we are encouraging disciple makers to practice the REAP method as it is one useful tool in learning to read the Bible on your own. Retell, Examine, Application, Prayer. Now this may not be everyone's preference, but it is an easy and consistent way to teach children to pull the meaning out of a passage and not just read it or rely on others to teach them what it means. Trees & Mountains - this is a station.

- ★ **Retell:** Have kids share what they recall from the story. Fill in any major holes they missed.
- ★ **Examine:**
 - Ask, "What do we learn about God from this story? What does He do?"
 - Ask, "What do we learn about humans from this story? What are humans doing?"
- ★ **Application:** Ask, "What is Jesus asking us to do through this story? Why did God include this in the Bible?"
- ★ **Prayer**

Memory Verse: Have the kids use the Bible. They should either share or each have one. If kids have their own Bibles, we can encourage them to use it, but sometimes you may just need to use the class set. Trees & Mountains - this is one station.

- ★ **Verse:** But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. The law is not against such things. -- Galatians 5:22-23

Memory Verse Practice:

Song: We don't have this yet. Every age group: Play the Books of the Bible song. Encourage kids to sing along. When in the Old Testament, play that song; when in the New Testament, play that song.

Verse Look Up: Explain the address of the verse (Book Chapter:Verse). Explain whether it's in the Old Testament or the New Testament. Read and explain the verse.

- Rainbow Tip: Put Post-It notes on the book of the Bible for the memory verse. Have them open just to the book of the Bible.
- Fireweed Tip: Do the Rainbow tip above and then have them find the chapter and verse.

Practice the Verse:

- Rainbow: Not necessary :)
- Fireweed: Have the kids read it with you several times. Since they are learning to read, group practice is the focus.
- Trees & Mountains: Kids should be learning the verse and saying it on their own. We will provide activities - pick one to have the kids practice. We will provide: fill-in-the-blank verses, phrases for the kids to put in order, lines for the kids to write the verse out, and a worksheet for the kids to say the verse based on just the first letter of each word in the verse.

Books of the Bible:

- If there is time or if kids have mastered the verse, have the kids practice the Books of the Bible. When we are doing Old Testament stories, have them practice the Old Testament; when in the New, practice the New Testament. We will have some activities for them to practice with.
 - Trees/Mountains currently have pencil cases with sets of cards/bookmarks in them.

Sticky Activities: No need to do all of these! Pick which ones work best for your teaching style and time frame! For the Trees and Mountains - there is enough time for two of the stations to do activities. Please see the following pages for activity ideas. You do not even need to use these, but I wanted to provide some ideas :)

Send Home Page: Labeled Lesson Recap. I am open to ideas on this. I made it smaller as I think many times they get trashed or left behind.

Self-Control Bubbles Activity

- Supplies: Bubbles
- Instructions:
 1. Grab a bottle of bubbles and head outside.
 2. Let your kids know that you are going to blow bubbles. Tell them that the first time that you blow them they can pop as many as they want.
 3. After a little while of letting them pop to their heart's content, stop blowing bubbles and tell them that the rules have changed a bit for this next round of blowing bubbles. Let them know that this time you're going to blow bubbles but they can't pop any.
 4. Talk about it: After you're all finished talk about how when they really wanted to pop the bubbles but they chose not to, that was choosing self-control. If they popped the bubbles the 2nd time around you can talk about how that wasn't choosing self-control.

Fruit of the Spirit song: https://youtu.be/Rezg4jYFoj0?si=pKbcF1V_EOB9QSVm

Following activity pages

Fill in the Blank Verse

Station Leader: Please cut this page in half. Hand out to the students. Help them complete this, if they need it.

Students: Use the Bible or the memory verse poster to help you fill in the blanks on this verse.

**But the _____ of the
_____ is love,
_____, peace,
patience, _____,
goodness, _____,
gentleness, and self-
_____. The law is
_____ against such
things. -- _____**

5:22-23

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5:22-23

Verse by Phrase

Station Leader: Please cut this page in half. Then cut each section apart on the lines. Mix up the phrases and put each set in its own envelope. Help the students and make sure they get it right.

Students can work by themselves or in partners.

Students: Take the phrases and use the Bible/memory verse poster to help you put the verse back in order.

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But the fruit of the Spirit is

love, joy,

peace, patience,

kindness, goodness,

faithfulness, gentleness,

and self-control.

The law is not

against such things.

-- Galatians 5:22-23

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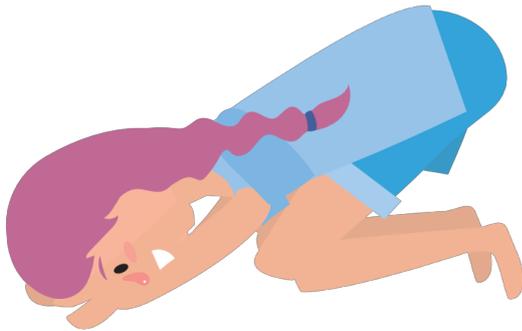
Fruit-bearing Trees Movements

This is a music and movement activity. Here we explore and pretend to be trees that bears the Fruit of the Spirit.

Preparation:

Create a space where the child can freely move around.

Steps:



To do this activity, first pretend to be seeds, curl up as small as possible on the floor.



Slowly, the warmth of the sun, just like the warmth of God's love, shines upon us. Slowly grow and pretend to be growing plants (everyone may sit or kneel and pretend to have grown a little).



Next, God's grace showers us just like the rain that trickles upon us. Pretend to grow full and stand up.



Finally, stretch out arms just like the branches of the tree.

Sway arms like branches pretending to have grown fruits, too (ask children what fruits they grew, some may have grown bananas, or grapes etc.). Think of the Fruit of the Spirit, Love, Joy, goodness etc.

Repeat as desired.

Kids and/or adults Cut apart and then kids can put them in order and staple them together as a booklet.



Love

Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

[Corinthians 13:4-7 ESV]

Joy

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

[Thessalonians 5:16-18 ESV]

Peace

I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.

[John 16:33 ESV]

Patience

A hot-tempered man stirs up strife, but he who is slow to anger quiets contention.

[Proverbs 15:18 ESV]

Kindness

Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

[Ephesians 4:32 ESV]



Goodness

So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.
Galatians 6:10 ESV



Gentleness

Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near.
Philippians 4:5 NIV



Faithfulness

A faithful man will abound with blessings, but whoever hastens to be rich will not go unpunished.
Proverbs 28:20 ESV



Self-Control

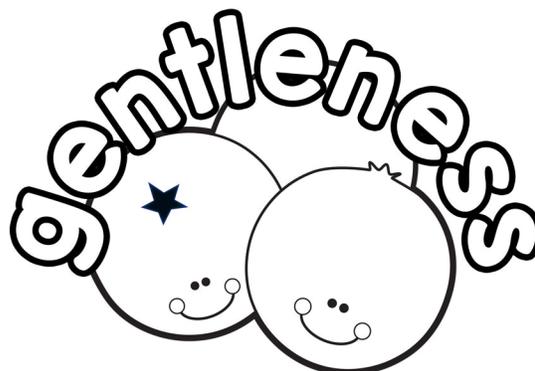
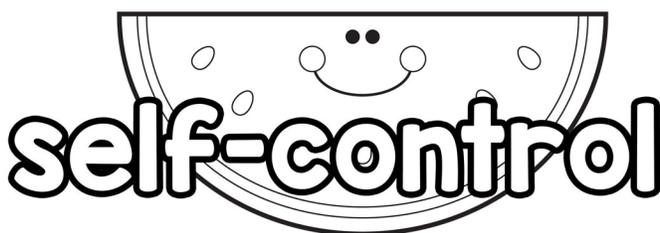
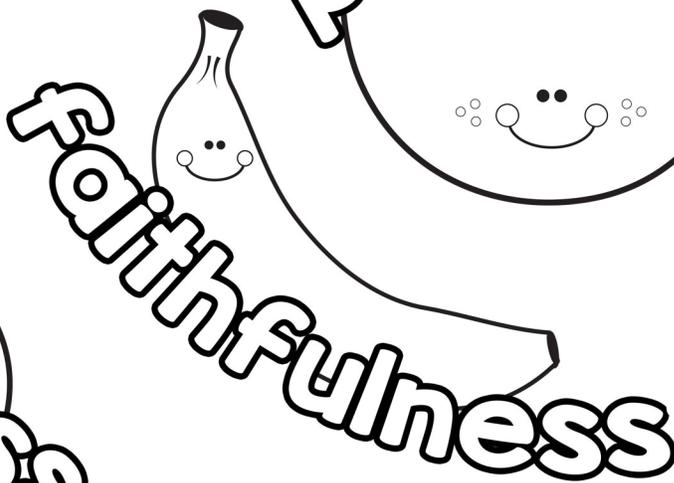
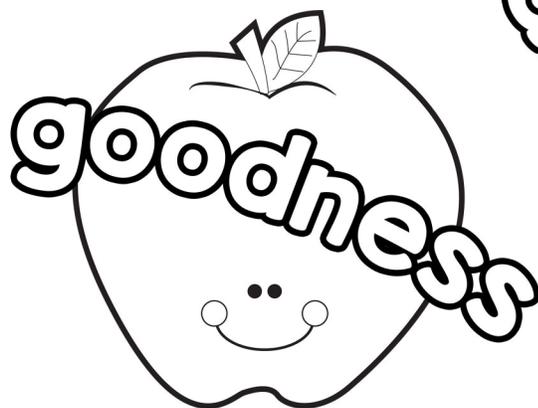
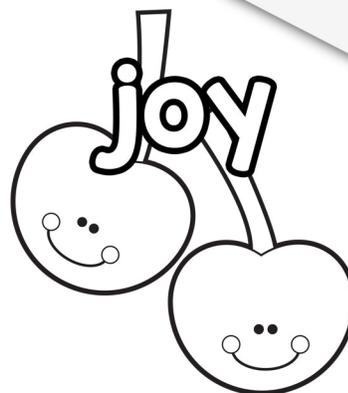
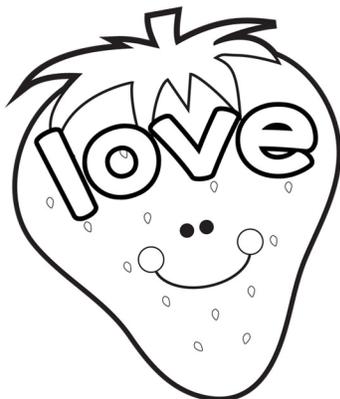
For God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.
2 Timothy 1:7 ESV

Ideas for Using the Cards

- Laminate the cards and review them each morning during breakfast or your morning routine.
- Place them in your time-out area and have your child review them during a timeout.
- Use them as dinner table conversation starters.
- Put them in a sensory table or morning basket.



FRUIT of the SPIRIT



Name _____

The Fruit of the Spirit

Have learners color the Fruits of the Spirit, cut (or use a 2" puncher), hole punch and attach using elastic string to make a necklace.



3D Fruit of the Spirit

YouTube: <https://youtu.be/v7DOTJlCeo>



What you need:

Template page
Colouring pencils,
Scissors,
Hole punch
Split pins.

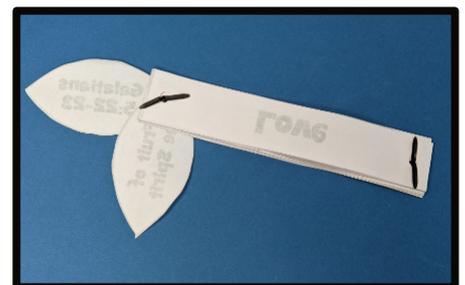
What to do:



Colour the template page
or print onto coloured
paper.



Cut out strips and punch
holes onto both ends.



Fix together with split-pin.

Attach leaves to top.

Open to make fruit shape.

Peace

Joy

Love

Patience

Kindness

Goodness

Gentleness

Faithfulness

Self-control

**Galatians
5:22-23**

**Fruit of
the Spirit**