

THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT IS KINDNESS

PARENT DEVOTIONAL

We don't have to guess what the fruit of a Christian's life is to be, since Galatians 5:22-25 tells us. When God and others look at our trees—our lives—they should see nothing but “love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.”

Model for your kids what it looks like to live by the Spirit, showing and sharing with them the fruit of your life. Much of Paul's discussion in the book of Galatians focuses on opposites. He looks at the differences between the gospel of Christ and false gospels, faith and observance of the law, promise and law, freedom and slavery. One pair of opposites that he looks at in detail is living by the flesh (following human desires) and living in the Spirit (following God's desires). The decision of which way to live makes an impact on all aspects of life. Paul is clear about the results of each way. People who choose to follow the flesh can expect their lives to hold the things that way of life produces. Ultimately, that choice means eternal separation from God.

These characteristics identify us with Christ. Paul uses an interesting image when he stresses our need to live by the Spirit. Anyone who has watched a marching band knows how obvious it is if one person is out of step with the others. In the same way, if we are not living the way that the Spirit directs us, that fact will be immediately noticed, and the results can be disastrous.

Each tree is recognized by its own fruit” (Luke 6:44).

1.5-5 YEAR BIBLE STORY + DISCUSSION QUESTIONS + ACTIVITY

WORSHIP

New unit means NEW SONG!!! Watch and sing the song with the kids. “Fruits of the Spirit” by Mighty Spirit Kids. There are no hand motions, so make up your own! Different movements for each fruit of the Spirit.

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3Q7bN3hgaZM>)

BIBLE VERSE

Since we will be in the Fruits of the Spirit unit for 10 weeks, we are going to memorize Galatians 5:22-23

Galatians 5:22-23 “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.”

BIBLE STORY

Fruit of the Spirit is Kindness

As you know, we are learning about the fruit of the Spirit. When we trust Jesus and live with him he helps us be these things: loving, kind, joyful, patient, gentle, peaceful, good, faithfulness, and have self control. When we say fruits, we aren't talking about the fruit we eat, we are talking about the characteristics we have. You know what tree it is by its fruit!

We started with the fruit of Love, joy and peace, patience and now we are going to learn about kindness! The Bible describes kindness as love lived out. It is valuing others above myself by being friendly, loving, thoughtful, and considerate. When I am kind I really see others around me and look for opportunities to serve them like Jesus.

We are going to read a story about the Good Samaritan.

The Good Samaritan

[Luke 10:29-37](#)

Bible Truth: Love your neighbor.

Jesus tells this story of the Good Samaritan to teach us what it means to love our neighbor.

One day a man was walking along the road and was suddenly robbed, beaten and left hurting. One man passed by and ignored him, and then another. Later, a Samaritan man came upon him and stopped to help.

The Bible says the Samaritan man had compassion on him.

After telling this story, Jesus asked, "Which of these three do you think proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?"

The answer, of course, is the Good Samaritan. Jesus told this story as an example of what it means to be kind to others, even those we don't know who need our help. The Samaritan had compassion for the hurting man and maybe it was because he recognized it could have been him who had been robbed. Perhaps he was so thankful to be safe he just had to help. Whatever his motivation, the Samaritan man chose God's way of kindness along the road that day.

When we recognize our blessings and our power to help others, we can reach out in kindness to be a good neighbor.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- What is kindness?
- How can we be kind?
- How does this story teach us about kindness?
- Do we show people love when we are kind?

CRAFT -

Two Options:

Kindness Cloud



Framed Kindness Cloud

For World Kindness Day 

Supplies:

1. White paper & colored paper
2. Crayons or Markers
3. Glue & tape

Directions:

1. Cut out a cloud from the white paper & write child's name in the center
2. Cut strips of colored paper and glue them to the back of the cloud.
3. Write ways your child can be kind on each strip of paper.

Fruit Crown craft:

Supplies:

Go to the link and view all the craft & coloring sheet printouts [here](#)

1. Print out
2. Color
3. Cut out
4. Write "Love, Joy, Peace, Patience and Kindness" on the fruits
5. Tape together to fit your child's head

