

## THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: GALATIANS 5:22-26



### The STORY

Read about the fruit of the Spirit in Galatians 5:22-26.

**Please note:** *The discussion questions in the following sections are written to serve as a guide in teaching our youngest children. Three to six year olds are not going to be able to answer these questions like their older brothers and sisters. Please refer to the God's Story Preschool Curriculum Outline for additional ideas.*

After reading the story, use the following questions to involve the children in a discussion.

- What is the fruit of the Spirit? (The fruit of the Spirit is godly attitudes and behaviors the Holy Spirit works in us as believers.)
- Who can tell me what the fruit of the Spirit are? (Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.)
- Is it possible to be perfect once we have the fruit of the Spirit in our lives? (No, we will make mistakes and sin until we go to heaven.)

### CRAFT QUESTIONS

**Coloring sheets have been provided that exemplify today's lesson: fruit tree full of fruit with the names of the fruit of the Spirit written on the fruit. Engage the children by asking:**

- Where does the good fruit like love, peace, and joy come from? (These are the fruit of the Spirit and come from God as we walk with God.)
- Does anyone know what the bad fruit of sin is? (From Galatians 5:19-21, the fruit of sin is the opposite of the fruit of the Spirit such as hatred, fighting, jealousy, selfishness.)
- What guide did God give us to help us to keep in step with the Spirit? (God has given us the Bible, His Word.)

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### SNACK QUESTIONS

**While the children are eating the snack, engage the children by asking:**

- What fruit of the Spirit do you find the hardest to show? (Accept any answer.)
- What does Paul mean in verse 24 “those who belong to Christ Jesus have killed their sinful desires and passions”? (They don’t have a lot of bad desires.)
- What does it mean to belong to Christ? (The Bible says that God draws those that he loves and makes them sons and daughters in His family. We can know that we are a part of his family because we believe in Jesus and want to live for Him. The fruit of the Spirit is the way we live in honor to God.)
- Paul said we should not envy one another. That means we should think about our own lives before God and concern ourselves with our own faith and behavior. Why do you think God wants us to look at our own lives? (We are the only ones that can believe in Christ for ourselves. Our faith is our faith. No one can give their faith to us. Believing is up to each one of us.)

### WHERE IS the Gospel?

*Please use the following comments connecting today’s lesson to the Gospel to help inform your understanding and serve you by aiding your preparation for class. Remember, we want to do more than present disconnected Bible stories and lessons to our young children. We want them to understand how each story in the Bible plays a part in God’s greater plan of redemption.*

The Gospel is clearly spoken by Peter in our passage today in Acts 10:39-43. Even while Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell on the Gentiles, filled them and gave them the gift of tongues.

Clearly what the Apostle Paul wrote is true:

... it (the gospel) is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile. (Romans 1:16b-17)

### WORD BIBLE MEMORY

**BE A DOER OF THE WORD**

*Take time during the class to review the WORD Bible Memory verses with the class. Provide the opportunity for each child to recite the verses to an adult worker.*