

Fruits of the Spirit

Live Like Jesus

But the Spirit gives love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. There is no law that says these things are wrong. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified their own sinful selves. They have given up their old selfish feelings and the evil things they wanted to do. We get our new life from the Spirit. So, we should follow the Spirit.

Galatians 5:22-25

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.**

On the other hand, the choice to follow the Spirit produces very different results for this life and for eternity. **The fruit of the Spirit includes different attitudes and actions that become more and more evident in our lives as we follow God's way.** They grow in our lives just as fruit grows on a tree that is properly cared for.

The characteristics of Christians that we are going to discuss are things such as love, joy, and peace. They deal with our behavior toward others: forbearance, kindness, and gentleness (power under control). And they describe our inner values of goodness, faithfulness, and self-control.

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.**

Read:

Acts 2:38-39

“Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.”

Read:

John 14:15-18

The Promise of the Holy Spirit

“If you love me, you will do the things I command. I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper.[Ⓜ] He will give you this Helper to be with you forever. The Helper is the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him because it does not see him or know him. But you know him. He lives with you and he will be in you.

“I will not leave you all alone like orphans. I will come back to you.

Discuss:

ASK:

- Who is promised the gift of the Holy Spirit? *(those who repent of their sins and are baptized)*
- What do these verses say about the Holy Spirit? *(God sends the Holy Spirit. He’s the Spirit of truth. He’s a counselor. He will be with us forever. We can’t see Him. He lives with us and in us.)*

SAY: When we live by the Spirit, we live a certain way. Let’s find out about that.

Let's read some of the things Paul wrote to the churches in Galatia

Galatians 5:16-26

"So, I tell you: Live by following the Spirit. Then you will not do what your sinful selves want. Our sinful selves want what is against the Spirit. The Spirit wants what is against our sinful selves. The two are against each other. So you must not do just what you please. But if you let the Spirit lead you, you are not under the law.

*The result of sin's control in our lives is clear. It includes worshiping false gods, doing witchcraft, hating, making trouble, being jealous, being angry, being selfish, making people angry with each other, causing divisions among people, having envy, being drunk, having wild and wasteful parties, and doing other things like this. I warn you now as I warned you before: Those who do these things will not be in God's kingdom. **But the Spirit gives love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.** There is no law that says these things are wrong. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified their own sinful selves. They have given up their old selfish feelings and the evil things they wanted to do. We get our new life from the Spirit. So, we should follow the Spirit. We must not be proud. We must not make trouble with each other. And we must not be jealous of each other.*

Discuss:

Let's say that a girl named Katie becomes a Christian and receives the gift of the Holy Spirit. Sometimes she tries to live by the Spirit, but she flips back and forth. Regina has to choose which life she wants to live—live for God or not; live by the Spirit or live by the flesh. The choice is hers.

Let's read Galatians 5:20-21 again:

"The result of sin's control in our lives is clear. It includes worshiping false gods, doing witchcraft, hating, making trouble, being jealous, being angry, being selfish, making people angry with each other, causing divisions among people,²¹ having envy, being drunk, having wild and wasteful parties, and doing other things like this. I warn you now as I warned you before: Those who do these things will not be in God's kingdom."

SAY: Did you catch what living by the flesh can look like? Hating others, being jealous and envious, being angry, and having selfish ambition—those are some of the things people might do when they live by the flesh.

Let's read Galatians 5:22-23 again:

"But the Spirit gives love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. There is no law that says these things are wrong".

- **SAY:** When we live by the Spirit and others look at our lives, they'll see nothing but love, joy, peace, forbearance (*that's patience!*), kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Now that's great living!
- What does it look like when you live by the Spirit?

Distribute the [Fruit of the Spirit activity sheet](#) and pencils.

SAY: Let's see if we can figure out what each fruit of the Spirit is. Work on the page together as a class. Ask volunteers to take turns matching a fruit of the Spirit with its definition.

(Answers: 1=f; 2=d; 3=a; 4=h; 5=b; 6=i; 7=c; 8=e; 9=g)

- Which fruits of the Spirit do you think you're doing pretty well with?
- Which fruits of the Spirit do you need to work on?

End in prayer.

Craft: Fruit of the Spirit piece of fruit.



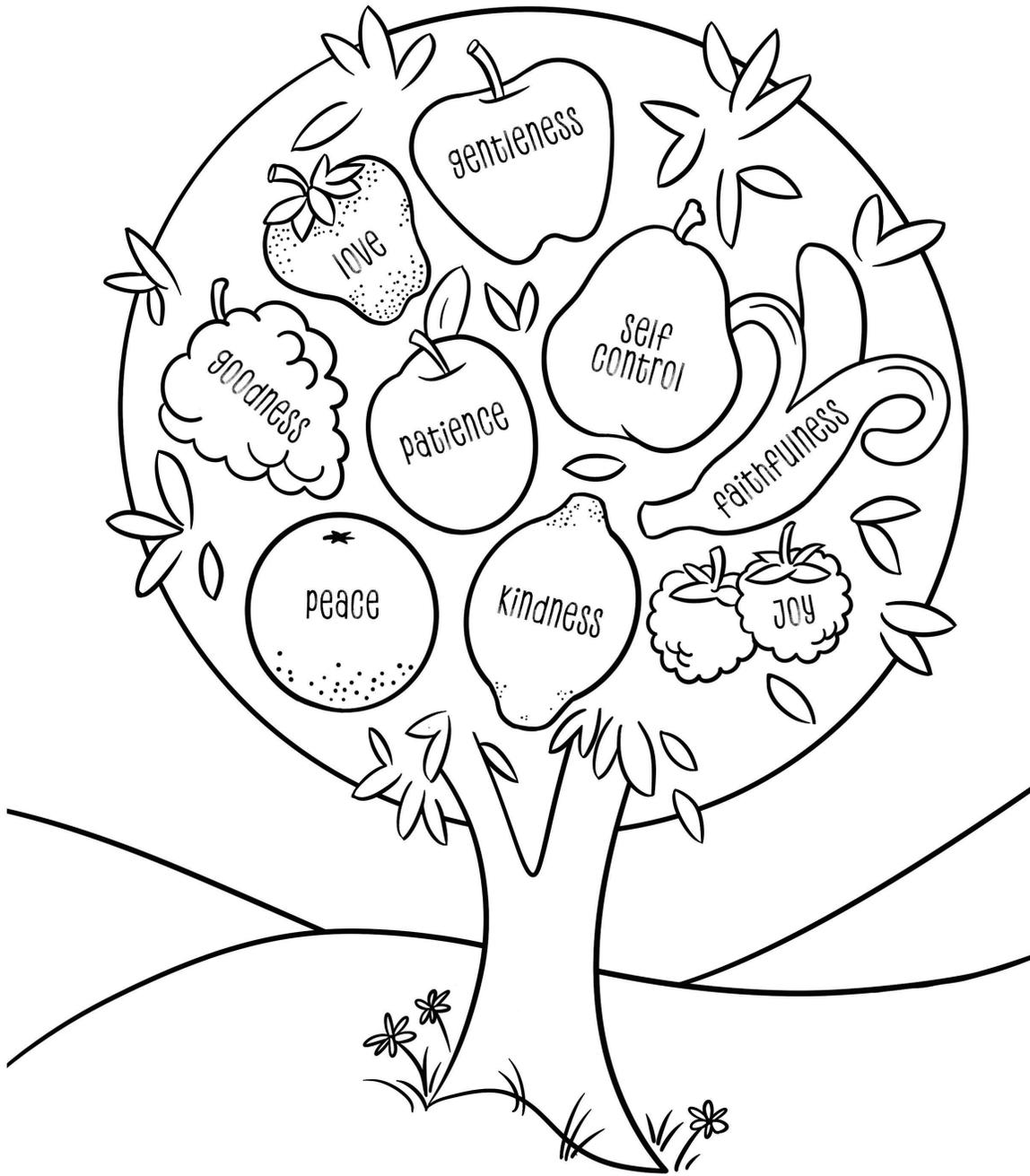
Veggie Tales: Lettuce Love One Another

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b_YJiSgUC3I

Feel free to take a picture of their art work or share how your activity went! Post it on our Facebook page or share it on GroupMe. Have a Blessed Day & Week! Until we can meet again

~ *Teacher Chrissy*

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

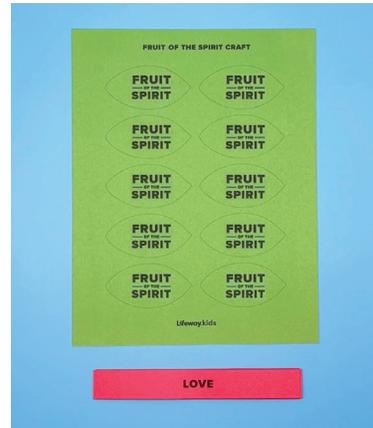
FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT CRAFT INSTRUCTIONS



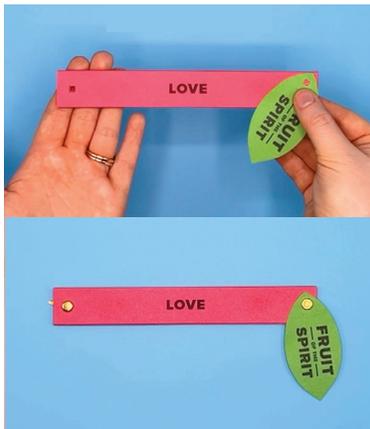
Print page 1 of the template on colored paper.



Cut out each of the strips and stack them together.



Print page 2 of the template on green colored paper and cut out the leaf shapes.



Punch a hole in both ends of the stack of strips and one leaf. Secure a brad through both holes.



Fan open the strips to create the 3D fruit shape.



FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT CRAFT

LOVE

JOY

PEACE

PATIENCE

KINDNESS

GOODNESS

FAITHFULNESS

GENTLENESS

SELF-CONTROL

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT CRAFT

