



3rd – 5th

May 3-4, 2014

DATE

Galatians 5:16-25
NIV Adventure Bible (p. 1293)

WHERE TO FIND IT

Fruit of the Spirit

LESSON TITLE

When the Holy Spirit lives in us, we act like him.

MAIN POINT

schedule

Connect Time (15 minutes): Five minutes after the service begins, split kids into groups and begin their activity.

Large Group (30 minutes): Begin 20 minutes after the service starts. Model what it looks like to be engaged in large group.

Small Group (15 minutes): Keep kids in small groups until parents arrive. If you *all* have extra time at the end, you can review the video and songs together.

tips

As soon as kids walk in the door, welcome them by name. Find a way to connect with them by asking them what they did today, what their favorite movie is, or even who took them to Kids' Club today.

check-in/out

As kids leave, encourage them to share the tree they made—and why they made it.

large group heads up

Today, we're talking about the Holy Spirit and what our lives look like when we are living by the power of the Spirit. This can be a tough concept, so ask the Holy Spirit to reveal it to kids.



connect time

GOAL: *Connect Time is all about engaging kids in an activity that allows them to connect with each other right away while simultaneously piquing their curiosity for Large Group and preparing their minds for what they're going to hear.*

EVERYTHING WE DO HAS FRUIT (OUTCOMES)

Split kids into whatever size group you deem best.

- Give each group 1 **tear-off sheet of paper**.
- **Draw** a line down the center
- On one side, have kids list things they do every day (e.g. brush teeth, study, go to school, play video games, blow your nose, eat, etc.)
- **Transition:** Talk about how everything we do has some sort of effect, like brushing your teeth = good breath/clean teeth; playing video games = you get to a higher level; going to school = you learn; etc.)
- On the other side, have kids list the outcome of what they wrote on the first side (help them if they need it)
- Then gather kids in small (or large) groups and ask them about the best and worst parts of their week.

Before you head into Large Group, remind them about your expectations for their behavior: (1) be kind, (2) listen when somebody speaks, and (3) follow the leader's instructions.



instructions

Goal: Kids will (1) review the fruit of the Spirit, (2) understand how to live by the Holy Spirit (3) evaluate their own choices based on the fruit of the Spirit.

Why? It's hard to understand how God's Spirit can live inside of us. But He can, and we want kids to begin to understand that and lean into him!

Tip: Be honest about what you don't understand. Encourage kids to ask the Holy Spirit questions and to look in the Bible.

small group

REVIEW

Pass around a **piece of fruit** as you discuss. *Whoever has the fruit is the speaker.*

1. What does it mean to bear fruit or produce fruit?
2. What power can we live by? (our own sinful nature or the Holy Spirit)
3. What's the fruit of our sinful nature?
4. What's the fruit of the Spirit?

****DIG DEEPER (You can answer in your own words, but some answers are provided in case you're not sure how to respond.)**

5. HOW can we live by the Spirit?
 - a. *When we believe Jesus took our punishment and we want to follow him, we can ask the Holy Spirit to live inside of us and help us.*
 - b. **Give each kid a heart sticker.** *They can put it on their heart or somewhere to remind them to ask the Holy Spirit to give them power this week. Anytime they aren't sure what choice to make or need help, they can ask!*
6. How do we KNOW if we're living by the power of the Holy Spirit?
 - a. *We bear the fruit of the Spirit (all of it). We make choices that are loving, peaceful, joyful, gentle, kind, full of self-control, etc.*
7. What happens if we mess up?
 - a. *We WILL mess up! But the Holy Spirit stands up for us because Jesus has taken our punishment. We can repent (turn away from our selfish, sinful choice), and just start following Jesus again.*

APPLICATION

- Give each kid a **tree** (write "Holy Spirit" on one side of the tree/their name on the other side)

(Continue on the following page)

- Put the **verse card** in the middle of the group
- Kids can write each fruit of the Spirit on a **leaf or acorn** (one leaf/acorn per fruit)
- Glue the leaves and acorns to the side of the tree that has their name
- Remind them that they will produce the fruit of the Spirit this week if their power comes from the Holy Spirit inside them (they can turn the tree over to remember the Holy Spirit is inside them). They can use these trees to test their choices until they get more and more used to hearing from the Spirit (it takes time to learn to hear his voice; just keep asking and listening).

***Pray together, asking the Holy Spirit to fill each kid this week.**

Extra time? Come up with ways your week will look different if everybody was living by the power of the Spirit. Have kids write ways on the back of one of the sheets you used during Connect Time. You can also play Pictionary using the fruits of the Spirit (find creative ways to draw a "fruit").

special notes

*BEFORE YOU BEGIN, choose an adult volunteer to help you with the “Living In the Spirit (Concept)” section of this lesson. Make sure they understand what they are demonstrating by “taking control” of your presentation.

presenter tips

Want previews of today’s videos?

- Plant time lapse
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d26AhcKeEbE>
- Fruit of the Spirit
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TZrIDT3k84U>
- Dancing Frogs:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5fju_XcUhqo&list=PLD914CE005C74F50B&feature=c4-overview-vl

script

Hi everybody! Welcome to Kids’ Club. It’s so great to see you here today. I want to hear a little bit more about what you guys did during Connect Time. Can I have three volunteers come tell us about it? *(Choose three kids. Ask each to name one thing they do every day and one outcome of that thing. Then let them sit down.)*

Wow, it’s amazing that everything we do has a different outcome or result. That goes for what I do too. For example, when I _____ (name something YOU do every day), that means _____ (describe the outcome/result).

THE IDEA OF PRODUCING FRUIT

The Bible talks about this and calls it “producing fruit.” For instance, if you plant an apple seed in your yard, an apple tree will grow. And apples will be the fruit. Or if you plant a radish seed, radishes will grow. Like this:

Video: Time lapse of radishes

Eventually, those will be radishes you can take from your garden and eat. Everything produces some kind of fruit. Maybe we can barely notice what it is at first, but over time, you can see it, like with a plant.

And the thing is, fruit can be bad too. I mean, think about it: if you stop brushing your teeth, you might not notice for the first few days, unless somebody smells your breath. But over time, those little bits of food will sit in your teeth and create cavities, right?

WE PRODUCE FRUIT

And did you guys know that the way we act produces fruit? Paul is a guy we’ve talked about before in Kids’ Club. He followed Jesus and helped teach others how to follow Jesus. One way he did that was by writing letters to people in churches far away that explained how we should



script continued

live when we're following Jesus.

But the thing is, following Jesus can be hard. Sometimes we just really feel angry... or want to be mean to somebody who beats us at a game... or feel like taking the best for ourselves. So Paul told us the best way to act like Jesus is to live by the Holy Spirit's power.

The Holy Spirit is God's Spirit, sent to us on earth. The Holy Spirit will live inside us and help teach us and guide us. We'll still mess up sometimes, but you know what's really great? When we mess up, the Holy Spirit will stand up for us and we can remember that Jesus died to take the punishment for our sins. So even though we mess up, we can keep following Jesus.

THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

Here's a video to help explain what Paul tells us about producing the fruit of the Spirit. As you watch, see if you can figure out some of the fruit of the Spirit:

Video: The Fruit of the Spirit

Wow, so what is the fruit of the Spirit? (Let kids name: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self control. If they don't get them all, that's OK). That's right. Here's what Paul says in Galatians 5:22-23:

SLIDE: Galatians 5:22-23: But the fruit the Holy Spirit produces is love, joy and peace. It is being patient, kind and good. It is being faithful and gentle and having control of oneself. There is no law against things of that kind.

The great news is, we don't have to *work* to be happy or to be loving or to be kind. We need to ask the Spirit to live inside of us and follow what he tells us to do. When we do, he'll give us the power to do not just one...but ALL of these things.

LIVING IN THE SPIRIT (CONCEPT)

(All the sudden, have another adult volunteer click forward to play the music slide. Act flustered. The video has 2 mins of dancing frogs. You do NOT have to watch the whole thing. The adult volunteer should not listen to you asking them to stop but leave the frogs as long as they want, then continue to skip through slides, going back and forth. Finally, they should stop.)

What just happened? (Let kids respond.) That's right, somebody else had control of the presentation! Even though I didn't want to listen to music or go to other slides, I had to, because they were in control.

It's KIND OF like that with the Holy Spirit. He won't come in and just move you around like that, but he might ask you to do something you don't *feel* like doing. You'll have to make a choice to say "yes" and do it, even if it's not what you want, if you want to live by the Holy Spirit.

And the thing is, Paul tells us one of two things is in control. Either we can live by the power of our sinful nature, doing what WE want to do. Or we can live by the power of the Spirit, with the Holy Spirit in control, doing what the SPIRIT wants us to do.



script continued

LIVING IN THE SPIRIT (APPLICATION)

Let's imagine that in our own lives for a moment. Everybody, stand up! (Let kids stand.) OK, this side of the room (point to one side) is the US side. Go to that side if what I say is living by our own power. This side of the room (point to the other side) is the Holy Spirit side. Go to that side if what I say is living by the power of the Holy Spirit.

I'm going to put the verse back up on the screen (**click forward to show new verse slide**). Remember, the Holy Spirit will **ONLY** tell you to do something that fits every single one of these things: love, joy, peace, etc.

- You gave somebody a high five after they beat you in a game (Holy Spirit)
 - That's not always easy, is it? But if we're living by the Holy Spirit's power, He helps us!
- You cheated on a test because you didn't want to fail (Us)
- You told somebody's secret because they made up a rumor about you (Us)
- You gave your birthday money away to someone who needed it (Holy Spirit)
- You invited your little brother to play video games with you (Holy Spirit)
- You laughed when you saw the school bully finally got in trouble for what he/she did (Us)
 - Even though you felt *joy*, that's not the Holy Spirit, because it isn't kind
- You asked your friend to come to Kids' Club with you because you wanted him/her to know about Jesus (Holy Spirit)
 - Yes, remember, the Holy Spirit helps us live like Jesus **AND** tell others about Jesus

You guys did a fantastic job! Now go ahead and sit back down. It's really easy to live by our own power and do what we want to do. It's a lot harder to live by the Holy Spirit's power and listen to him. But it's worth it to bear amazing fruit like love, peace, joy, gentleness, faithfulness, and the others (refer to the verse still on-screen).

Let's stand now and worship Jesus, thanking him for giving us the gift of the Holy Spirit so that we aren't stuck making choices by our own power.

WORSHIP

The first song talks about how Jesus love shines through us when we live by the power of the Holy Spirit. The second song is about how we listen to God speak through the Holy Spirit.

Song: Wake

Song: Because You Love Me

PRAY

Ask somebody to pray and ask the Holy Spirit to help us live by his power this week.



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PREP needs



connect time supplies

- 1 tear-off sheet of paper per small group
- markers

small group supplies

- Markers
- Bible
- 1 Piece of plastic fruit per small group
- 1 heart sticker per kid (OT: IN-12/1885)
- 1 tree per kid (OT: IN-13604475; please remove the “tree of thanks” label but keep all the leaves and acorns so that each kid has at least 9)
- 2 per small group: one piece of cardstock with the verse printed on it (template in file)
- gluesticks (3 per group)

large group supplies

- NIV Adventure Bible (p. 1293)

a/v needs

1. Video: plant time lapse (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d26AhcKeEbE>; the first 29 seconds only)
2. Video: Fruit of the Spirit (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TZrIDT3k84U>)
3. SLIDE: Galatians 5:22-23: But the fruit the Holy Spirit produces is love, joy and peace. It is being patient, kind and good. It is being faithful and gentle and having control of oneself. There is no law against things of that kind.
4. Crazy music video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5fju_XcUhqo&list=PLD914CE005C74F50B&feature
5. Verse slide again: Galatians 5:22-23: But the fruit the Holy Spirit produces is love, joy and peace. It is being patient, kind and good. It is being faithful and gentle and having control of oneself. There is no law against things of that kind.
6. Song: Wake (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=io2WQQ-3aVs>)
7. Song: Because You Love Me (with hand motions)

connect questions

- Tell me about fruit of the Spirit.
- How can we live by the power of the Holy Spirit?

parent page

Today, we talked about how we can either live by the power of our own sinful nature or by the power of the Holy Spirit. When we choose to live by the power of the Spirit, we bear some amazing fruit. Ask your kid to tell you about it. You can also read about it together in Galatians 5:16-25 in the Bible.