

# Children's Ministries Lesson – Twos/Toddlers

## Fruit of the Spirit: Joy

Galatians 5:22-23

May 17, 2020

Children's Ministries purpose is **to build a spiritual foundation in each child that lasts a lifetime.**

We hope this lesson provides additional opportunities for your family to strengthen your relationship with each other and with Jesus. This lesson has components of both Children's Church and Sunday School fused together.

As you prepare for this lesson and the space you will use, please gather supplies, create a worship focal point (ideas: A Bible, a cross, a candle and an offering container), and remove other distractions from the area. Read through this lesson before beginning. *Wording in BLUE italics is information for the family leader(s). BLACK italics are actions to do.*

With love, from your Children's Ministries Team and Worship Leaders, Ashley Hymel, Thanushka Lewkebandara and Tina Throckmorton.

**BIBLE STORY POINT:** God gives us the fruit of the Spirit to help us show others what his joy looks like.

**SUPPLIES:** Worship focal points: Bible, cross, candle (lit or unlit), and offering container; link to worship songs; link to Bible story video; baby doll (or other special doll) for lesson; fruit of the Spirit banner supplies (see below)

**FAMILY CHANT:** *During Sunday School, your children begin with a "class chant". To bring that to your home, create a family chant that you can say each time. Create your own or use this one. The chant helps connect mind with body and connects everyone together.*

*Motions/actions are in parentheses.*

Let's create our own family "chant" as we begin our time together. Repeat what I say and do.

I reach up (*reach both hands up to the sky*) **I reach up (*reach both hands up to the sky*)**

I reach down (*reach both hands down to their toes*) **I reach down (*reach both hands down to their toes*)**

I share a smile to everyone (*smile at each other*) **I share a smile to everyone (*smile at each other*)**

I see you (*point to each other*) **I see you (*point to each other*)**

You see me (*point to self*) **You see me (*point to self*)**

Together we make the [*insert family name*] family. (*put arms around each other's shoulders - form a huddle*)

Together we make the [insert family name] family. (*put arms around each other's shoulders - form a huddle*)

### **OPENING PRAISE SONGS:**

[Click here](#) for the full playlist of St. Luke's Children's Praise Music, including more Fruit of the Spirit songs!

**Supplies:** [Select the links for Praise and worship Music:](#)

["Greeting Song & Fruit of the Spirit"](#) (Tina Throckmorton, Sunday School Music Teacher)



### **OFFERTORY:**

*Determine where your offering will go. You may select an organization of your choice, or save it until we return to Sunday School/Children's Church to give to our current mission, or add it to your 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary piggy bank. The scripture below is the scripture we use each Sunday during our Offertory time.*

Let us say this scripture together. "God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7.

### **PRAYER:**

Dear Jesus,

Thank you for letting me feel the joy of knowing you! Help me to spread this joy to all of my friends.

Amen.

## **LEARNING SCRIPTURE:**

Let us learn this scripture together.

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.” *Galatians 5:22-23a*

This is the word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

## **Fruit of the Spirit Series Introduction Video**

Let's watch this video about our new Fruit of the Spirit series!

[Click here](#) to watch this introduction video if you have not previously viewed it.



**BIBLE STORY** adapted from <http://storage.cloversites.com/pinedalechristianchurch/documents/>

**Supplies:** baby doll or other special doll

Last week we learned about LOVE! Today, we are going to learn about God's special gift of joy. Let's watch the Bible story together.

[Click here](#) for the Bible story.



**Discussion Questions:** *(ask some or all of these questions)*

1. What special word did we learn about this week? *Yes, JOY!*
2. Who went to see baby Jesus? *The Shepherds*
3. Why were the shepherds so full of joy? *They got to meet baby Jesus!*
4. What did the Shepherds do after they saw baby Jesus? *They went back and told others to spread the joy!*

**ACTIVITY OPTION #1: If You're Joyful and You Know It**

from <http://storage.cloversites.com/pinedalechristianchurch/documents/>

*This is a song sung to the tune of "If You're Happy and You Know It"*

*Lead your family in several rounds of "If You're Joyful and You Know It" with the following lyric changes:*

If you're joyful and you know it, clap your hands! *(clap, clap)*  
If you're joyful and you know it, clap your hands! *(clap, clap)*  
God has saved us from our sin,  
So don't keep your joy locked in,  
If you're joyful and you know it, clap your hands! *(clap, clap)*

CONTINUE with the words and motions for *stomp your feet, shake a hand*, and say, "amen."

**ACTIVITY OPTION #2 – Fruit of the Spirit Banner (or Poster)**

**Supplies (for total project):** See below under each idea.

**TWO OPTIONS:**

**Option A:** If you previously created your banner, today you will add the **JOY** card to your banner or point out **Joy** if you are using the provided full poster (as in #1 below).

Throughout the week, as you see family members showing the attributes of **love** and **joy**, point it out and encourage them to continue!

**Option B:** Create your "Fruit of the Spirit Banner".

*You will make part of this project each week of the Fruit of the Spirit series.*

*Select the option of your choice below – either selecting the poster that is ready to print and display or create your own banner (#2 or #3).*

*Images of various options:*

1. **Poster** – Ready to print as is – use the link to print. Post in a central location for your family. Simplest way to do this activity.

**Supplies:** <https://biblegamescentral.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Fruit-of-the-Spirit-Cards.pdf>.



Thank you, [www.BibleGamesCentral.com](http://www.BibleGamesCentral.com).

## 2. Vertical Banner –

**Supplies:** poster board or large piece of paper, poster cards (link above), markers, glue stick and/or painter's tape. Great for a fridge or narrow space.

Write Title; draw boxes (we used the cards from the poster and just made them a bit larger; cut cards; and tape or glue each one in a box, one per week.



## 3. Horizontal Banner - Using Poster Cards (above link)

**Supplies:** ribbon, clothes pins or tape, poster cards, heavy paper cut in banner style or be as creative as you want.

To make the background banner cards, cut paper larger than the poster cards (see link above); lay them on a piece of ribbon; leave about 6 inches on each end to for hanging; write "Fruit of the Spirit" on the three center banner cards; attach blank banner cards to the ribbon with clothes pins or tape; cut out poster cards; tape or glue one on each banner card each week. Hang on a wall with painter's tape or bulletin board, etc.



We would love to see your creation! Send to [rfisher@stlukesmethodist.org](mailto:rfisher@stlukesmethodist.org).

### **Overall Directions:**

1. As a family, decide how large you want your family banner to be and where the banner will be displayed in your home.
2. Select your design.
3. The fruit of the Spirit for week two is **joy**.
4. Attach **Love** and **Joy** to the banner and hang in your house. A new picture and new fruit of the Spirit will be added each Sunday throughout this series.

### **FAMILY CHALLENGE – Caught Showing JOY (and Love)**

**Supplies:** Fruit of the Spirit banner and your family

Throughout this Fruit of the Spirit series, notice or “catch” each other living out the attributes of the fruit of the Spirit. When you notice someone showing “joy” (or “love”), go to the banner and give a shout out to the family member who shared joy (or love). What are some ways your family shows joy (and love)?

**Want to do more with the challenge?** Have family members record the acts of joy on slips of paper and collect them in a jar. Read them together as a family and see God at work in your home!

As you see family members showing the fruits of the Spirit you have learned, point it out and encourage them to continue! So far we have learned **love** and **joy**!

### **Parent Tip:**

*The goal of the banner is to help your family memorize the fruit of the spirit and put them into practice each day (as age appropriate). A great tip for memorizing the fruit of the Spirit is to remember it is made up of 9 attributes. These attributes can be broken down into three sets of three. Each of these three sets increases in syllables. The attributes in the first set have one syllable: love, joy, peace. The ones in the second set have two syllables: pa-tience, kind-ness, good-ness. And the ones in the third set have three syllables: faith-ful-ness, gen-tle-ness, and self-con-trol. Use this tip to help memorize the fruit of the spirit for yourself and use these words at prayer time as another time to share with your child.*

### **ACTIVITY OPTION #3 – Fruit of the Spirit Song**

**Supplies:** Select [this link](#) for the “Fruit of the Spirit Song” by Go Fish.

While you listen to this song you can play “freeze” or use it as a song to clean up to! This is an easy song to throw in to the mix all week long as we to learn our fruits of the Spirit!

### **CLOSING PRAYER:**

Now, let us say this prayer as an “echo” prayer. I will say some words and you repeat them with me.



Dear Jesus, **Dear Jesus**  
Thank you **Thank you**  
for the shepherds story. **for the shepherds story.**  
Help me feel **Help me feel**  
your joy each day, **your joy each day,**  
and share it with others. **and share it with others.**  
Amen. **Amen.**

### **CLOSING SONG:**

**Supplies:** [Click here](#) for closing song, “We Will Worship” (Ashley Hymel & Thanushka Lewkebandara)

*Play the closing song.*



### **SERVICE OPPORTUNITY – to continue our worship all week! (see below)**

#### **DECORATE BAGS FOR KIDS MEALS**

**Supplies:** brown lunch bags, markers and/or crayons

St. Luke's partners with Kid's Meals to help provide children with lunches. The children LOVE to receive their meals in fun bags decorated by other children!

#### **Directions:**

Give your child a brown paper lunch bag.

Tell them to color on it or draw a pretty picture!

Don't feel like the picture needs to be too perfect – children see beauty in all artwork!

**Thank you!**