

Children's Ministries Lesson – 3rd-5th Grade

Fruit of the Spirit – Peace

Matthew 6, Mark 4, & Galatians 5:22-23

May 24, 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 your space, consider gathering 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, Your Children's Ministries Team and Worship Leaders, Ashley Hymel & Thanushka Lewkebandara.

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

SUPPLIES: Worship focal point ideas: A Bible, a cross, a candle and an offering container; praise and worship music links; Bible story link; activity supplies (see activity options below); service opportunity (listed at the bottom of the lesson)

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 family "chant" as a way to begin our time together. Repeat what I say & do.

*We are the [insert family name] family. (whoop whoop) **We are the [insert family name]. (whoop whoop)***

*We are safe and helpful too. (clap clap) **We are safe and helpful too. (clap clap)***

*Using kind words is what we do. (stomp stomp) **Using kind words is what we do. (stomp stomp)***

*Together we can make the world a better place. (high five) **Together we can make the world a better place. (high five)***

This is our family! (whoop whoop) This is our family! (whoop whoop)

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 (use one or both links)

1. ["Great Big God"](#) (Ashley Hymel and Thanushka Lewkebandara, Contemporary & Children's Church Worship Leaders)



2. ["Strong & Courageous"](#) (performed by Ashley Hymel & Thanushka Lewkebandara)



OFFERTORY:

Determine where your offering with 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. Place your offering in your container. (You may use your 75th Anniversary piggy bank, if you have one.) The below scripture is the scripture we use each Sunday during our Offertory time.

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

Now, let us pray for those who will receive our offering and The Lord's Prayer. Does someone want to lead us in prayer?

An optional prayer:

Dear God, We thank you for our many blessings. May the offering we share today bring your hope to those who will receive it. And now, let us pray the prayer Jesus taught us:

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

LEARNING SCRIPTURE:

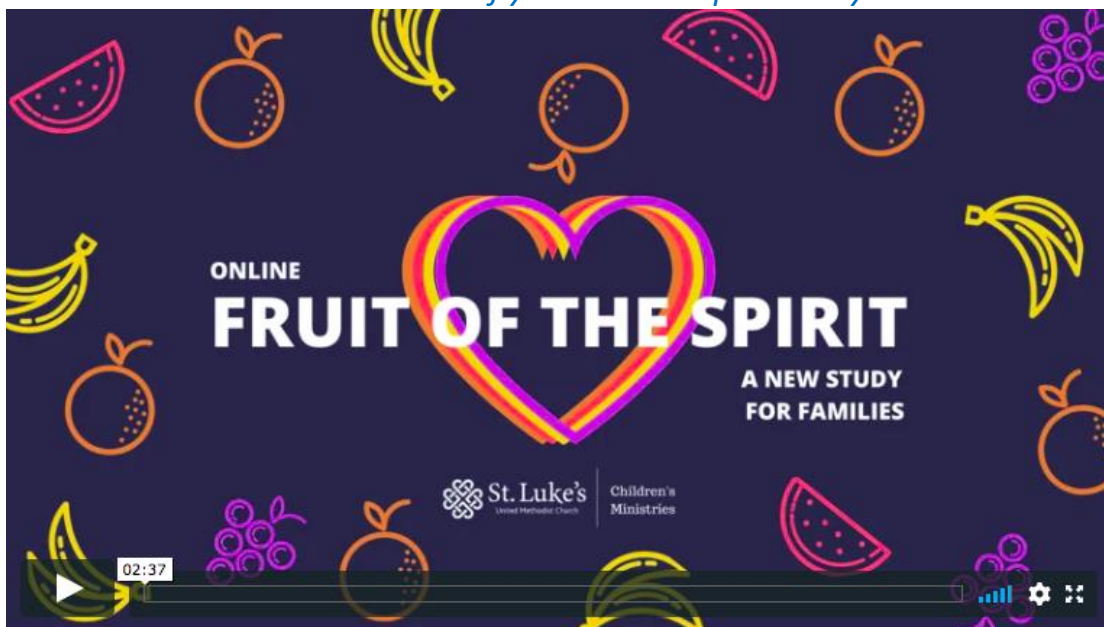
Let us learn this scripture together.

“By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.” Galatians 5:22-23

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

VIDEO INTRODUCTION TO THE SERIES – Fruit of the Spirit

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



FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT PRAYER

We've been learning about the term, "fruit of the Spirit". When the Bible uses the word, "Spirit", God means the Holy Spirit. The fruit of the Spirit is a gift God gives us to help us live lives that please him and show his love to others.

Let's begin to understand the fruit of the Spirit more with a prayer. Let's pray.

Heavenly Father, thank you for giving us the fruit of the Spirit. We ask you to help us live each quality of the fruit of the Spirit.

Help us to show **love** and **joy**.

Help us to have **peace**.

Fill us with your **patience** and **kindness**.

Show us your **goodness**.

Help us demonstrate **faithfulness** and **gentleness** and, finally, help us have **self-control**.

In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Last week, we focused on the attribute, joy. Today, we will learn more about peace!

BIBLE STORY:

Supplies: [Click here](#) for the Bible story video

Our Bible story for today comes from the New Testament, the Book of Matthew and the book of Mark. Watch and listen to two stories, the first one from the [Jesus Calling Bible Storybook](#) by Sarah Young: "Do Not Worry" and the second one from the [Jesus Story Book](#) written by Sally Lloyd-Jones and illustrated by Jago: "The Captain of the Storm".

[Watch the Bible story video.](#)



DISCUSSION AFTER BIBLE STORY:

Supply: Bible

What did you find most interesting about the stories? (*Allow time for family members to share their thoughts.*)

Why does Jesus tell us not to worry? (*God has promised to take care of us and give us everything we need.*)

About what do you worry? Is it hard to remember God's promise sometimes? Why? (*Allow family members time to share thoughts.*)

Jesus' disciples worried, too. During the storm, they had difficulty remembering that Jesus was with them, looking out for them.

Jesus showed his disciples that he meant what he said by saving them on the stormy sea. He also gave examples of the ways God takes care of us, as well as all the creatures of the earth, like birds and flowers.

How do you think the disciples felt after Jesus calmed the storm? (*They were filled with an attribute of the fruit of the spirit called peace.*)

Peace is the opposite of worry. It is knowing you are taken care of by God, no matter what happens.

The Bible tells us that God created everything and everyone. He loves his creations, including you! Because God loves us so much, he sent Jesus to live among all the humans and birds and flowers God created. He knows every worry we have and wants us to feel peace by trusting in him.

Let's look up these verses of the Bible!

Have a family member (or members) read these verses aloud.

Matthew 6:25-34

Mark 4:35-41

What are times you've felt afraid? What are times you've felt peace? Who in your life makes you feel taken care of? How can you bring peace to your friends and family members?

Always remember, Jesus' love and joy and peace can carry us through anything!

ACTIVITY 1: Fruit of the Spirit Multi-Week Family Activity

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

You will make part of this project each week of the Fruit of the Spirit series. Today you will add "PEACE" to your banner/poster from last week or make the overall banner/poster, if needed.

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.



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.



4. Horizontal Banner – Create your own

Supplies: Whatever you choose! For this one, we used ribbon, cardstock, markers, clothes pins, and painter's tape to attach to the wall.



We would love to see your creation! Send to 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 three is **PEACE**.
4. As a family, decorate one sheet of paper to represent peace. Be as creative as possible!
5. Attach peace to the banner. Your banner should now contain love, joy and peace! A new picture and new fruit of the Spirit attribute will be added for 6 more Sundays!

FAMILY CHALLENGE – Caught Being a Peacemaker

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 being a peacemaker, go to the banner and give a shout out to the family member who shared peace. What are some ways your family shares peace with one another? Of course, as your family notices “love” and “joy”, point that out, too!!

Want to do more with the challenge? Have family members record the acts of peace (and love and 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!

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. A great tip for memorizing the fruit of the Spirit is to remember it is made up of 9 characteristics. These characteristics can be broken down into three sets of three (3+3+3). 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 share with your children!

ACTIVITY 2: Your Dream of Peace

Supplies: Paper or canvases, markers, paint, or crayons

Directions:

1. Have each family answer the following questions: What does a peaceful kingdom look like to you? If you were to paint a picture of peace what would it be? If someone struggles to think of idea, you can share the examples below:



A piano.



The solar system.



A peace sign with her favorite colors.

2. Individually draw or paint your idea of peace. You may even want to put on peaceful music! [Click here](#) for a YouTube playlist. [Click here](#) for a Spotify playlist.
3. Share with each other what you drew/painted and why.

CLOSING:

LEARNING SCRIPTURE:

Let's say our scripture again!

“By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.” Galatians 5:22-23

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

Today, we learned about peace – the peace that comes from knowing Jesus. The disciples were afraid and struggled to keep their ship from sinking during the storm. It was not until they asked Jesus for help that he rescued them and reassured them that everything would be okay. Jesus told us that God will always be there for us, no matter what storm come our way. Let's pray that we feel peace in our hearts knowing God is looking after us and giving us everything we need because he loves us. Let's thank God for the wonderful gift of the fruit of the Spirit.

CLOSING PRAYER:

Ask someone to close in prayer or use the following prayer.

Dear God, we love you and thank you for the fruit of the Spirit you give us in peace. Thank you for loving us first to show us what true love and joy looks like. We thank you for the gift of Jesus and for helping us learn that we can always count on your peace that grows inside us. Help us share your peace. We praise you and love you because you are God and you are love and joy and peace. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

CLOSING SONG:

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

Play the closing song.



SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES – to continue our worship all week!

Spread peace to the community!

1. Drive-Thru Food Drive for CCSC | Saturday 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Help Christian Community Service Center (CCSC) keep full shelves! You can pull up to the Main Entrance porte-cochere on the south side of the St. Luke's campus (3471 Westheimer Rd.) No need to get out of your car! Volunteers will collect all donations out of your car for you. Requested Food Donation Items: Pasta, Hearty Soups, Boxed dry cereal, Canned vegetables, Canned tuna, Canned chicken, Canned fruit, Cleaning wipes, Toilet paper, Baby Wipes, Bar soap and Diapers (4, 5 & 6).

2. Decorate Kids' Meals Lunch Bags

Help bring peace to preschool aged children by decorating brown lunch bags with fun pictures. Bags can be dropped off at St. Luke's during food drive on Saturdays or anytime during the week.