

Children's Ministries Lesson – 1st & 2nd Grade

June 14, 2020

Fruit of the Spirit – Kindness

Matthew 19:13-15; Mark 10:13-16

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

BIBLE POINT: We should show kindness to everyone. The fruit of the Spirit attributes are important to demonstrate each and every day.

SUPPLIES: Worship focal point ideas: a Bible, a cross, a candle and an offering container; praise & worship music links; Bible story video 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 own family "chant" as a way to begin our time together. Repeat what I say and do.

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)*

I love our [insert family name] family! *(whoop whoop)* I love our [insert family name] family! *(whoop whoop)*

We are the dream team you see. (*clap clap*) We are the dream team you see. (*clap clap*)
(*continued on next page*)

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

Using kind words is what we do. (*high five each other*) Using kind words is what we do. (*high five each other*)

I love our [*insert family name*] family! (*whoop whoop*) I love our [*insert family name*] family!
(*whoop whoop*)

We are the dream team you see. (*clap clap*) We are the dream team you see. (*clap clap*)

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. ["Trust in the Lord"](#) (Ashley Hymel and Thanushka Lewkebandara, Contemporary & Children's Church Worship Leaders)



2. ["I've Got the Joy"](#) (performed by Ashley Hymel & Thanushka Lewkebandara)



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. 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?

Or, you may use this 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:

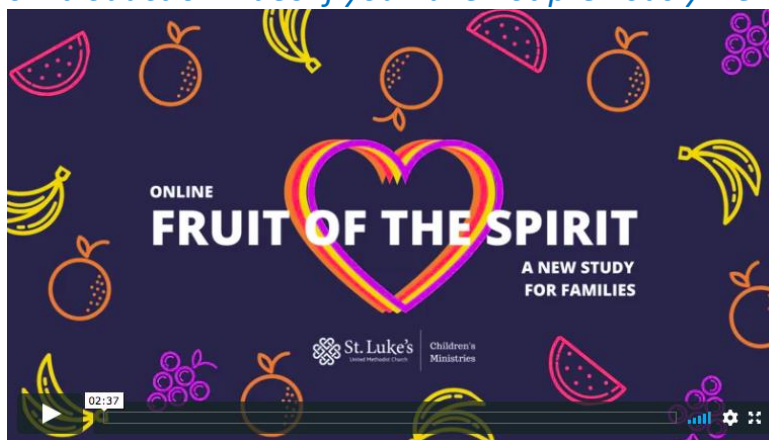
Let us learn this scripture together.

"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.**

VIDEO INTRODUCTION TO THE SERIES – Fruit of the Spirit

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



INTRODUCTION TO BIBLE STORY

We have 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 honor him and show his love to others.

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

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**.

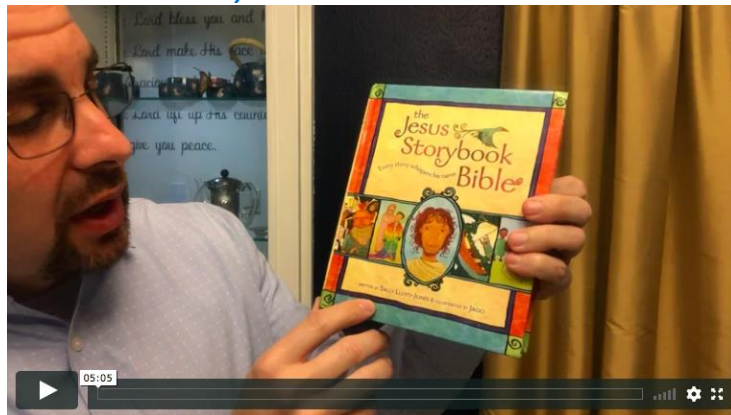
Help us to use the fruit of the Spirit to show others what your love looks like. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.

Thank you, God, for giving us your kindness.

BIBLE STORY –

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

Our Bible story for today is, “The Friend of Little Children” from *The Jesus Storybook Bible* by Sally Lloyd-Jones. [Watch the Bible story video](#).



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. How did Jesus show kindness to the children? *(By complimenting them and loving them how they were, and spending time with them, even though they were not perfect.)*
2. What did Jesus mean when he told the disciples that they should be like the children? *(because they knew the love of God and Jesus was free, they did not have to do anything to earn it)*

3. Why did the disciples think the children should not be allowed to see Jesus? *(They did not think Jesus had time for them.)*
4. How can you show kindness towards others? *(by using kind words and compliments, by listening to and showing respect to others, by spending time with others)*
5. What are some ways to show kindness to others if they are not kind to you?
6. Should we make people earn our kindness? *(Jesus taught us that we do not have to earn his love and kindness, we should try and follow his example.)*

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 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 this week is **kindness**.
4. As a family, decorate one sheet of paper to represent kindness. Be as creative as possible!
5. Attach kindness to the banner and hang in your house. A new picture and new fruit of the Spirit will be added each Sunday throughout the series.

ACTIVITY 2: Kindness Box (for the whole family!)

Questions taken from [sundayschoolkids.com](https://www.sundayschoolkids.com/activities-nt/1-nt-be-kind-instructions.htm) <https://www.sundayschoolkids.com/activities-nt/1-nt-be-kind-instructions.htm>

Activity taken from "Appreciation Box" on Edutopia.org <https://www.edutopia.org/blog/kindness-lesson-plan-rebecca-alber>

Supplies: A box or some type of container that can be decorated with paper, plain white paper or construction paper that could be drawn on, tape, markers, crayons, or pens, small strips of paper or sticky notes.

When Jesus was sent by God to us, one of the things Jesus did was to give us examples of how we should treat each other. Jesus showed kindness to so many people, and never acted like he was too important to share his time with anyone. In our story today, Jesus showed kindness by sharing his time with children and saying kind things about them.

We should follow the example of Jesus and look for ways to say kind things about others.

Using words of appreciation let others see the light of Christ shine through us. It also builds people up and forges stronger relationships.

The activity below is meant to help your family get into the habit of saying kind words to each other so that you can lift each other up. The first part of the activity is a set up for a longer-term activity where notes of appreciation are shared on a regular basis. Please note that this activity will take some modeling from adults, so please make sure the whole family is involved.

As you make this, think of the box you are making as a variation on a Valentine's Day card box.

1. Cover the box or container you have chosen with the paper.
2. Make sure you leave an opening at the top.
3. Decide which side of the box each person participating will decorate.
4. Ask everyone participating in the family some of the questions below that will help you to decorate your box.
5. Depending on the answers given, determine if the answers give you ideas about how you could decorate different sides of the box.
6. Decorate your box with the ideas that everyone has come up with.
7. Once the box is decorated, place it in an area that everyone in the family has access to and can reach.
8. Using the sticky notes or strips of paper members of the family can leave small notes of appreciation for their family members. These notes can just recognize others for things you appreciate about them, or you could also write how you caught them being kind.
9. This may take some modeling and encouraging at first, so adults make sure you are putting notes in.
10. Determine a time of day that works for you to read the notes from the box, some suggestions could be before bedtime, after dinner, or at lunchtime if the family is all together.

Questions for decorating the box:

1. Helping someone is kindness. How are some of the ways you help others without being asked?
2. Sharing is kindness. Who are some of the people you can share with? What can you share with them?
3. Respecting where you are is kindness. Which places do you visit where you need to show respect?

4. Cleaning up after you make a mess is kindness. Where are some of the places you may need to clean up after making a mess?
5. Putting another person first is kindness. What are some ways you can put others first?

ACTIVITY 3 and Prayer: Kindness Snack Mix and Prayer

Supplies: Cheerios or similar cereal, Craisins or other similar dried fruit, marshmallows, chocolate chips, pretzels, bowls, and scoops, plastic bags or containers to keep the mix in.

In our story today Jesus shows us how we should treat everyone with kindness. We can follow Jesus' example and show the light of God to others by showing kindness to them! Today, we are going to make a Kindness Snack Mix and learn a prayer for kindness. As you mix these ingredients together you can say the words in the parentheses as a prayer.

Combine the following ingredients into a bowl.

1 **generous** cup of pretzels (God, help us to be **generous** by sharing with others.)

½ **abundant** cup of Cheerios or other similar cereal (God, help us to give **abundantly** with our gifts and talents)

¼ **overflowing** cup of Craisins or other similar dried fruit (God, help our mouths to **overflow** with kind words for others.)

2 **heaping** tablespoons of marshmallows (God, help us to have **heaps** of patience and forgiveness for others when they make mistakes.)

2 **carefully** measured tablespoons chocolate chips (God, help us to **carefully** think through all decisions and consider others.)

Once combined in the bowl, mix **thoughtfully** so you do not make a mess. (God, help us to remember to be **thoughtful** and kind like your son Jesus.)

Don't forget to scoop into bags to share and enjoy! (Amen!)

CLOSING:

LEARNING SCRIPTURE:

Let's say our scripture again!

"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.**

Today, we learned about kindness. The Bible is FULL of stories about kindness. This week, I want you to challenge yourself and your family to read at least one Bible story each night that

teaches us about one of the fruit of the Spirit qualities we have learned so far: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness. Then, act out these qualities each day. This a great challenge and one that God will certainly guide you and smile from ear to ear. Let's thank God with our closing prayer.

CLOSING PRAYER:

Dear God, we love you and thank you for the fruit of the Spirit you give us in kindness. Thank you for loving us first to show us what true love, joy, peace, patience and kindness look like. We thank you for the gift of Jesus and for helping us learn how to share your kindness with our actions. We praise you and love you because you are our God and you have perfect kindness. In Jesus' name, we pray. 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!

Let's share some LOVE, JOY, PEACE, and KINDNESS with others:

Supplies: paint, river rocks/small stones

1. Make and Share Kindness Stones - paint or decorate river rocks or small stones. As you walk through your neighborhood, leave them by the doorsteps of your neighbors. If you have paint, you may paint the rock first, if desired. You may use paint pens or colored pencils to decorate the rock.