

Children's Ministries Lesson – 3rd-5th Grade
Fruit of the Spirit – Faithfulness
Psalms 86:15, Matthew 19:19 and Hebrews 10:23-25
June 28, 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 faithfulness 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. ["Deep Down Boogie"](#) (Ashley Hymel and Thanushka Lewkebandara, Contemporary & Children's Church Worship Leaders)



2. ["Thank You, Lord"](#) (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 AND INTRODUCTION TO THE 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 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.

So far, we have learned about the attributes love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, and goodness. Today, we will learn more about faithfulness!

What does **faithfulness** mean to you? *(Wait for responses – think about recent times in your family or what you see in the world around you.)*

People who are faithful are dependable and trustworthy. They keep their promises and will be there for you.

Has someone ever broken a promise made to you? How did you feel? *(Wait for responses. Allow family members time to share.)*

When you hear the word faithful is there a Bible character or Bible story to come to mind? *(Wait for responses. Allow family members time to share.)*

Do you have a friend or family member who is faithful (dependable and trustworthy)? Do you have a story about this person being faithful? *(Wait for responses. Allow family members time to share.)*

God calls us to be people of our word. To be faithful to God and to be faithful to others. He wants us to lean on others we can trust and depend on and others to feel they can lean on us. Today we are going to study three different scriptures to learn about God's faithfulness, how we can be faithful to God and how to be faithful to our family and friends.

BIBLE STORY:

Supplies: [Click here](#) for the Bible story video and Bible (to look up Bible scripture)
Watch the Bible story video.



DISCUSSION AFTER BIBLE STORY:

1. What does it mean to be faithful? *(Faithful people do not give up on others. They stand up for others. They are encouragers. They are people who forgive and give others second chances.)*
2. How has God been faithful to us? *(He stands by us and will not ever give up on us. He always listens and forgives us when we fall short.)*
3. How can you be faithful to God? *(Give God your time, pray to him, love and care for others.)*
4. How can you be faithful to your family and friends? *(By being trustworthy and dependable, listening, encouraging and forgiving.)*
5. What does the Golden Rule (Matthew 19:19) have to do with being faithful? *(We want our friends and family members and others to be faithful to us, so we should be faithful to others.)*
6. After reading Hebrews 10:23-25 what should we try and do because of God's faith in us? *(Listen to others the way God listens to us. Love and serve other people. Encourage others, especially when you see them doing things that please God. Forgive others when they fail or make wrong choices and give others a second chance.)*
7. How does studying God's faithfulness in the scripture help you to be more faithful? *(God's examples of faithfulness teach us what true faithfulness looks like. By studying this characteristic of God, we learn how to lead a faithful life and how our faithfulness can inspire and help other people.)*

We can trust God because he is always faithful and takes care of us. We can also be trustworthy and show faithfulness to those around us by keeping our promises, working hard to complete a task, and making sure our words and actions are faithful to Jesus and his ways.

Always remember, Jesus' love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness and faithfulness 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 "FAITHFULNESS" 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.

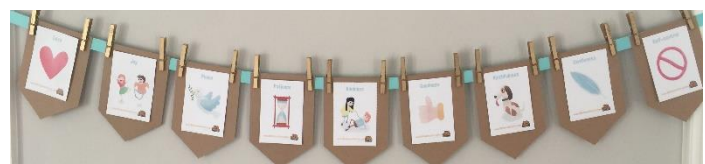
Write Title; draw boxes (we used the cards from the poster and just made them a bit larger; cut cards; and tape or glue each one in a box, one per week.



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 seven is **FAITHFULNESS**.
4. As a family, decorate one sheet of paper to represent faithfulness. Be as creative as possible!
5. Attach faithfulness to the banner. Your banner should now contain love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, and faithfulness! A new picture and new fruit of the Spirit attribute will be added each week throughout this series!

FAMILY CHALLENGE – Caught Finding Faithfulness

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 God’s faithfulness, go to the banner and give a shout out to the family member who shows appreciation for God’s faithfulness. What are some ways your family shares faithfulness with one another? Of course, as your family notices “love” and “joy” and “peace” and “patience” and “kindness” and “goodness”, point those out, too!!

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 – Faithful People

Inspired by kidsenjoyingjesus.com

Directions:

See if you can match the faithful people with their descriptions. If you need help, look up the Bible verses.

1. I faithfully followed my mother-in-law to her land and cared for her.	A. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego (Daniel 3)
2. We were thrown into a fiery furnace for being faithful to God!	B. Joseph (Genesis 45:7-8)
3. I faithfully obeyed God, and my family and I were saved from drowning.	C. Ruth (Ruth 1 :16-18)
4. I was faithful to God in Egypt, and God used me to save my family from starving.	D. Paul (Acts 28:30-31)
5. I faithfully preached in many countries and wrote letters to churches to help them grow in Christ	E. Noah (Genesis 6:22)

Answers: 1.=C, 2.=A, 3.=E, 4.=B, 5.=D.

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 faithfulness. The Bible teaches us of God's perfect faithfulness. He shares it with us so we may share it with others. Yet, it takes a lot of practice and a whole lot of prayer. God wants us to keep our focus on him. When we do, we can experience and know the fruit of the Spirit. What a wonderful gift from God. Let's thank God with our closing prayer.

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 faithfulness.

Thank you for loving us first to show us what true love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, and faithfulness look like. We pray that we may always be faithful to you by loving

others unconditionally, just as you do to us. Help us share these gifts with others through our words and our actions. We praise you and love you because you are God and you are kind. 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!

Let's share some LOVE, JOY, PEACE, PATIENCE, KINDNESS, GOODNESS, and FAITHFULNESS with others: Celebrate an Essential Worker - They continue to work really hard for us! Make a sign, give a big shout out, or say thank you to a delivery person, a grocery store employee, your mail carrier, your teachers, a healthcare professional, etc.! Think outside the box! I learned of a neighborhood that each home celebrated their mail carrier's birthday!