

Children's Ministries Lesson – **Toddlers/Twos**

Fruit of the Spirit: Faithfulness

Galatians 5:22-23, 1 Samuel 18:1-5

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 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: Jesus is our most faithful friend! We can show faithfulness to our friends as we live out this fruit of the Spirit.

SUPPLIES: Worship focal points: Bible, cross, candle (lit or unlit), and offering container; link to worship songs; link to Bible story video; 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 75th 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:

Lead this cheer: Two, four, six, eight. We think (family member's name) 's really great. Thank you, God for (same person's name) . End with the family cheering: Yea, God!

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

Today, we are going to learn about God's special gift of **faithfulness**. What is **faithfulness**? Let's watch the Bible story together to find out.

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



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

1. What special word did we learn about this week? *Faithfulness*
2. Who was David's new friend? *Jonathan.*
3. What did Jonathan give to David? *Special presents to show that David was his friend.*
4. What is a way you can show faithfulness to a friend? *Many answers work.*

ACTIVITY OPTION #1: – Create a Habit Tracker

This week, use a Habit Tracker to remind yourself to thank God every day for your friend(s) and pray for him/her/them. (A **habit tracker** is a simple way to record whether you did a **task or habit**.) Print out or make a calendar for the week. (Each day should have a square.) Each day that you pray for your friend(s), color in the square for that day. At the end of the week, look at your habit tracker to see how faithful you were to your friend(s) by praying to God for them each day!!

PARENT TIPS - Faithfulness is being steadfast and trustworthy.

*Great friendships include 4 qualities: commitment, sacrifice, great love, and God at the center.

*Jesus died on the cross to make us friends with God. Proverbs 18:24 “There is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.”

*Meditate on the Bible verses about God’s faithfulness and friendship: Hebrews 13:9, Proverbs 17:17, Proverbs 18:24, and John 15:15

*Pray for your child to be a faithful friend and to have faithful friends who also love God

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

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. If you have not made a banner/poster before, today you will make the overall banner and decorate the section for love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, and faithfulness.

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.



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 **faithfulness**.
4. As a family, decorate one sheet of paper to represent **faithfulness**. Be as creative as possible!
5. Attach **faithfulness** 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.
6. As you see family members showing love, joy, peace, kindness, goodness, and faithfulness, point it out and encourage them to continue!

Parent Tip to Learn the Fruit of the Spirit:

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.

FAMILY CHALLENGE – Caught Showing FAITHFULNESS (and love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness)

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 “**faithfulness**”, go to the banner and give a shout out to the family member who shared **faithfulness**. What are some ways your family shows **faithfulness**? Of course, as your family notices the other fruits of the Spirit point those out, too!!

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

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITY OPTION – 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 God, **Dear God,**

Thank you for my good friends! **Thank you for my good friends!**

Please help me **Please help me**

share your love **share your love**

so I can be a good friend, too. **so I can be a good friend, too.**

Amen. **Amen.**

CLOSING SONG:

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



SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES – to continue our worship all week! (See below)

Let's share some LOVE, JOY, PEACE, KINDNESS, GOODNESS, and FAITHFULNESS to others:

Celebrate an Essential Worker - They continue to work really hard for us, so FAITHFULLY every week! 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! How cool is that?!