

# May 27, 2018

**Bible Story Focus:** The Fruit of the Spirit  
Galatians 5:16-26

**Memory Verse:** The new is here – 2 Corinthians 5:17

**Main Point:** The Holy Spirit helps us to be more like Jesus

**Big Picture Question:** Who changes us? God changes us to be like Jesus.

## **Social: Providing Time for Fun Interaction (Small Groups, 15 minutes)**

Activities that encourage preschoolers to enter the classroom and begin engaging with peers and Small Group Leaders by providing age appropriate and hands on fun while introducing new concepts they will hear in the day's Bible story.

*Prepare to offer the following activities as Your 3-, 4-, or 5-year-olds arrive.*

### **1. Play "Fruit Basket Turnover"**

What you need: Fruit stickers

Gather children in a circle on the floor. Give each child a fruit sticker. Determine how many different fruit stickers to use based on the size and ability of your group. Explain to children that when you call out the fruit on their sticker, they must get up and move to another spot in the room. Children must wait until you call out their fruit before they move. If you call out "fruit basket turnover," everyone must get up and find a new spot. Play as time allows.

**SAY** • Today's Bible story is about fruit, but not [*Name the fruits represented on the stickers.*] The fruit of the Spirit is attitudes and actions that grow and show in someone who knows and follows Jesus.

**Transition to**

## **Story: Communicating God's Truth in Engaging Ways**

*Engage kids' hearts through a dynamic and interactive Bible story and prayer experience in a Large Group setting.*

### **Bible Story**

**What You Need:** Bible

#### **Introduce the Bible story**

**SAY** • We will hear a lot about fruit today, but the fruit we are talking about is not fruit that grows on a tree or fruit that you eat. *Fruit* is a word that Paul used to describe attitudes and actions that grow and show in the life of a believer.

#### **Watch or tell the Bible story**

Place a bookmark at Galatians 5 in your Bible. Invite a preschooler to open it. Reverently display the open Bible.

**SAY** • Is there any book more important than the Bible? No, the Bible is the only book that has God’s words in it, and God’s words are true. Today’s Bible story is from the Book of Galatians in the New Testament.

### **PLAY BIBLE STORY VIDEO**

#### **Talk about the Bible story**

**SAY** • We are sinners. We do wrong things. But when we trust in Jesus, God gives us the Holy Spirit. **The Holy Spirit helps us be more like Jesus.** The Holy Spirit changes our hearts to make us want to think about and do the things that please God.

Ask the following review questions:

1. What controls us before we trust in Jesus? (*sin*)
2. When Jesus frees us from the power of sin, who controls us? (*the Holy Spirit*)
3. What do we call love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control? (*the fruit of the Spirit*)
4. Who makes the fruit of the Spirit grow and show in believers? (*the Holy Spirit*)

#### **Learn the big picture question**

**SAY** • Our big picture question asks, ***Who changes us? God changes us to be like Jesus.*** The Holy Spirit starts to change us when we trust in Jesus. Paul told believers how the Holy Spirit helps. The Holy Spirit gives us power to say no to things that are wrong and live in a way that pleases God.

#### **Practice the key passage**

**SAY** • Our key passage tells us that we are a new creation if we are *in Christ*. Being *in Christ* means that we have turned from our sin and trusted in Jesus to rescue us. Sin does not have power over us anymore. The Holy Spirit changes us to love God and want to obey Him.

#### **Transition to experience the story**

### **Groups: Creating a Safe Place to Connect (Small Groups, 25 minutes)**

Create a safe place to connect through activities that are written to reach every learning style while reinforcing the Main Point that was introduced during the Bible Story and applying it to real life experiences. In addition, these activities provide preschoolers with an opportunity to build relationships with their Small Group Leader.

*Offer as many of the following activities as your time, facilities, resources, and leadership allow. You may want to lead one activity at a time. Or, offer two activities at once and allow half the kids to participate in each. Then switch groups and repeat the activities.*

#### **1. Fruit of the Spirit**

What you need: “Fruit of the Spirit” activity page and crayons

Give each child an activity page. Encourage them to color each fruit as you talk about each of the Fruits of the Spirit.

**2. Bible Story coloring page**

**SAY** • God, thank You that when we trust in Jesus, He frees us from the power of sin. Sin no longer controls us, and the Holy Spirit takes over. Holy Spirit, continue the work of changing our hearts to help us love You and be like Jesus. Amen.