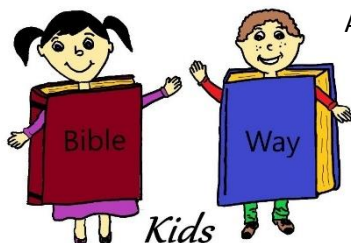




A Fruitful Garden



A Bible Way Kids curriculum compiled by:
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A Fruitful Garden

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Party and Review

A Fruitful Garden

This series deals with the Fruit of the Spirit. These are things that we are working on developing in the lives of our children and ourselves.

This series has lots of fruit moments, the kids love the eating parts.

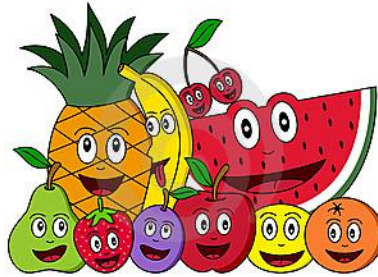
They will receive a badge at the first lesson and receive fruit stickers to put on it every week they attend.

The costume or dress for the series is checked shirts for men and women, denim or khaki skirts for the women with aprons. For the men bib overalls or denim. Straw hats for the men and sunbonnets for the ladies. That sun gets hot working in the garden!

The room décor is all about the garden. We had a white picket fence and white fluffy clouds with the fruits of the spirit written on them. Little rabbits, squirrels and apple trees filled out the area.

There is lots to do and usually a snack for take home or eating at the end of each lesson.

Have fun working in the garden!!



A Fruitful Garden

Lesson One: Planting a Garden

Lesson at a Glance

Welcome: Badges-Purchase badges and clips with paper inserts (Can be purchased at Wal-Mart or Office Depot) - One per child

Pre-session: Badges, crayons, fruit stickers

Offering: Box of dirt

Songs: Two spoons

Memory Verse: Dry erase board

Craft or Game: Copies of pattern for sower game, (Resources), file folders, glue, small baggie of sunflower seeds per child, pair of die per child

Lesson: Large apron with pocket, pictures to put in pocket or apron (Resources) pictures

Snack: Dirt cups (Resources)

A Fruitful Garden

Lesson One: Planting a Garden

Scripture Text: Matthew 13:3-9, 18-23

Memory Verse: Galatians 5: 22-23 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

Fruit: Dirt Cups



Welcome and Attendance: Welcome each child today to the farm. The children will notice your costume and the new decorations. Each child will receive a badge that they will complete in pre-session. (They will turn these in each week as they leave).



Pre-session: Let the children complete their badges to wear each week. They can decorate their own badge with crayons and markers. Each week they will attach a new fruit sticker when they come in.



Prayer: Tell the children we are beginning a new series today about growing things. The things we are going to grow are Fruit of the Spirit. We will be learning to be like Jesus. Pray with the children that we can grow good fruit in our hearts.



Offering: Let the children put their offering into a box of dirt. (We'll worry about cleaning it up later).



Songs: Each week a new homemade instrument will be added. Children will draw names and take turns playing the instruments. The teacher will lead in singing a few songs relative to the subject of the lesson and let the children sing and play along with the homemade instruments.

Homemade Instrument: Two spoons hit together.

Oh, How I Love Jesus, What a Mighty God We Serve, He's a Peach of a Saviour



Craft: Let the children make a file folder sower game. Each child will be given a file folder and glue to make the game and a baggie of sunflower seeds and a pair of die.



Memory Verse: Write the memory verse on a dry erase board. (This is a longer verse than usual and will be the key verse for this series) The goal will be for the majority of the children to learn the verse during this session. Read the verse with the children together several times and then break it down and explain to the children what each of the words mean. Memorization is important but we want them to understand what they are learning.



Lesson: Did you guys notice something different when you came in today? I thought you did. We have a new series starting today and I think it's going to be a lot of fun. What are we going to be talking about? We are going to learn about some things that grow in God's garden. Did you know your life can be God's garden? He has special things that he wants us to have in our hearts. He wants our lives to be pleasing to him. We're going to have fun learning about them. Remember your memory verse today? All of those things are things that God wants in our hearts.

One of the first things that has to be right when a person plants a garden is the soil. The soil carries nutrients to the plants and roots the plants. It is important to plant seeds in good soil. Our story today is about soil. All of you are going to help tell the story.

The story today was a parable that Jesus told in the Bible. A parable is a story that has another meaning.

(Have a large apron for the sower with large pocket in the front. In the pocket have the pictures from the patterns that you have prepared.)

(Choose one boy to be the sower) There was a sower that went out to sow. A sower is like a farmer. The sower went out and sowed his seed. He spread the seeds far and wide. (Have the boy throw out the pictures that are in his pocket.) All of you should get a picture and then sit quietly and listen.

When I talk about the picture that you have in your hand, please stand up.
Remember the seed is the word of God.

1. The first soil that the seed fell on was way side soil. (Those with picture of birds stand up)

Jesus said those by the wayside are they are hear the word of God and then devil comes and takes away the word out of their hearts. The word of God doesn't stay in their hearts very long. (Children sit down)

2. The second soil that the seed fell on was rocky soil. (those with rock picture stand up) Jesus said these are they which, when they hear, receive the word with joy, but have no root. They believe for a while, but when things get hard they fall away. (children sit down)

3. The third soil that the seed fell on had thorns. That's like weeds. (those with weed picture stand up). This type of soil are they when they have heard the word of God, go forth, but the cares and riches of life are more important to them than the word of God. This type of soil didn't grow any good fruit. (children sit down)

4. The fourth type of soil that the seed fell on was good ground. (those with green beautiful grass stand up) . This type of soil are they which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word of God, keep it and bring forth good fruit. (children sit down)

All of those soils had the same seed, didn't they? They all heard the word of God. If the soil is our hearts, how should we act when we hear the word of God? We should accept it and let God work in our lives. We want God to grow good fruit (things) in our lives.

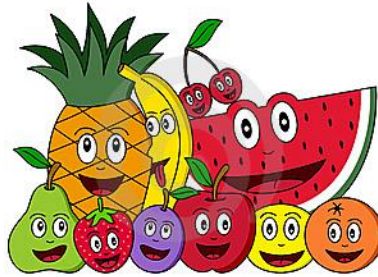
When we hear the plan of salvation that our Pastor preaches we should be willing to obey shouldn't we. That's having an honest and good heart. We should repent, be baptized in Jesus name and be filled with the Holy Ghost.

Pray with the children.



Extended Time Game: Play fruit basket upset. All the children sit in a circle in chairs. Pick four or five fruit names and go around the circle giving each child a fruit name. At the beginning of play, remove one chair and the child from the chair goes to the middle of the circle. The teacher calls out a fruit name (one of those that have been given to the children). Those children move out of their chairs and go to a different chair. The child in the middle tries to sit down. The child left standing calls out the next fruit name and play continues in the same manner.

Snack: Give the children dirt cups to eat or take home



A Fruitful Garden

Lesson Two: Love, Christ on the Cross

Lesson at a Glance

Welcome: Pink and red construction paper hearts (one per child)

Pre-session: Hearts from welcome, baggies or 8 ½ x11 sheet of construction paper (one per child)

Offering: Heart box of candies

Songs: Rice and spoon maracas (Resources)

Memory Verse: Dry erase board, poster board with large heart drawn on it-then cut into several pieces, parts of memory verse written on pieces

Craft or Game: Conversation hearts, glass, water, 4 Alka Seltzer tablets

Lesson: Poster with four different types of love that are listed

Fruit Treat: Two strawberries per child, melting chocolate, baggies

Extended Time Game: Two trash cans, paper plates with sins written on them

A Fruitful Garden

Lesson Two: Love, Christ on the Cross

Scripture Text: Luke 23

Memory Verse: Romans 5:8 But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Fruit: Strawberries



Welcome and Attendance: Welcome each child and give each one a pink or red heart. Ask them what a heart means. Tell each one you love and care for them. (Believe it or not, some children in our classes may not hear that said all week, we want them to know there is one place that truly cares for them).



Pre-session: Let the children cut or tear the heart they have received into pieces and make a puzzle. They can either glue it onto a piece of construction paper or put it back together and then place in a baggie.



Prayer: Ask the children names of the people that they love. We are going to pray for all these people today. We want to always pray for them and also show them that we love them.



Offering: If possible, bring a heart box with candies in it. Let children put their offering in the box and then pass it around and let every child have a candy to eat, whether they gave an offering or not.



Songs: Bring in another homemade instrument to add to the one last week. Draw names for the child who will play it.

Instrument: Rice and spoon maracas

At the Cross, At Calvary, Jesus Loves Me



Memory Verse: Write the memory verse on dry erase board. Use large poster board heart that you have prepared. Cut out the pieces and give a piece to several children. Let the children line up with the pieces and the other children put them in order. If time allows let the children put the pieces together as a floor puzzle.



Craft or Game: Children will gather around the table and be given a few candy conversation hearts to eat. (While the children eat the hearts the teacher will conduct the activity). We are going to be learning about the Fruit of the Spirit “love” today. I am going to do an experiment to show what love is like when it is working in our hearts. Can we show “love” if we don’t add any actions to it? For example: Can I tell you I love you and then never talk to you and totally ignore you every time I see you. Would you believe I really loved you? I’m going to demonstrate to you what love is like without actions.

Let’s pretend this is love. (Place some conversation hearts in glass.) Why isn’t anything happening? All it’s doing is sitting there in the water. Is anything happening to my love? No, we need to add some actions to my love. (Add the 4 crumbled up alka seltzer tablets and water to the glass-the hearts will start jumping up and down) Wow!! Now my love is really working. We have to do more than just say we love, but we should show by our actions that we love.

Talk to the children about some ways we can show love. Examples: Hug someone we love, bring a gift to someone we love, open a door for someone, spend some time talking to an elder, etc...



Lesson: We have been talking about the Fruit of the Spirit-Love today. We already learned that love needs action to really be love. We all want love in our lives. We want to love others and to have others love us. No one wants to be disliked or hated. (Show the poster that you have prepared ahead of time with the different types of love)

Did you know that there are several different types of love? The Greek word “storge” is the love we have for our family. It is different from the Greek word “philia” which is the love we have for our friends. Another kind of love is “eros” which is the love we have when we grow up for our spouses. The love we are going to talk about the most today is “agape” love. This is the love we want to have in our hearts. It is sacrificial love. That means you are willing to give up something for someone else. It is the kind of love that Jesus had when he died on the cross.

Did Jesus show his love towards us or did he just say he loved us? Yes, he showed us. Our memory verse today told us that “while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.” Jesus died on the cross so that we might be able to go to heaven. He loved you more than he loved his own life. He took all our sins upon himself when he died for us. Do you think it felt good to be on the cross? No!!! They spit on Jesus, they plucked his beard out and put a crown of thorns on his head. Then they took him to a hill call Golgotha and put spikes in his hands and legs and hung him on a wooden cross. Jesus loved us so much that he suffered and died even when we were unlovable. Do you think you could die for someone you don’t even know? Would you be willing to die for someone that you know doesn’t like you. While Jesus was dying on the cross, there were some that were making fun of him. They even pierced his side with a spear, yet he still loved them. Some of us have a hard time liking some people, much less be willing to die for them. That shows us how much Jesus loved us.

When we obey the plan of salvation (ask the children to say the plan of salvation after you), the Bible tells us that “the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts”.

That means we can love people like Jesus did and have the fruit of the spirit love in our hearts. Do we really have to die for others like Jesus did? Maybe not, but we must be willing to tell others about him and become a living sacrifice (willing to give up things) for Jesus. If we know we need to do something for someone else, we want to be willing to do that, even if it costs us time, energy, or money.

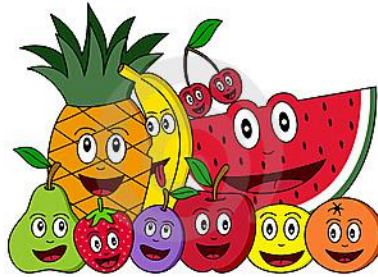
Let’s pray and ask Jesus to help us love the way that he did and be willing to give our lives so that others can know about him.

Fruit treat: Show the children how a strawberry looks like a heart. Let each child dip two strawberries in chocolate. They can take them home in a baggie to eat.



Extended Time Game: Trash the Sin

Line up two trash cans at the end of the room and line up a team of children behind each trash can. At the other end of the room, place small paper plates with a sin written on each plates. (You will need to have at least 25 plates). Each child on the team will run down, pick up a paper plate and yell out what the sin is. They will then run down to the next child on their team and put the sin in the trash can. The actions are repeated until all children have trashed a sin. Talk to the children about how we trash our sins when we repent, get baptized in Jesus name and receive the Holy Ghost.



A Fruitful Garden

Lesson Three: Joy

Lesson at a Glance

Welcome and Attendance: Badges and fruit sticker for attendance

Pre-session: Sheets of white card stock with word JOY written (one sheet per child)

Offering: Box with the word Joy written all over it

Songs: Small bells, two paper plates, tape, markers (place bells in plates and tape the plates together and decorate)

Memory Verse: Dry erase board, Memory verse word scramble sheets

Craft or Game: Card stock with word JOY in large letters, glue, sequins

Fruit Treat: Bananas (one per child), sharpies

Extended Time Game: Banana, music

A Fruitful Garden

Lesson Three: Joy-David

Scripture Text: Psalms 126:1-3

Memory Verse: Philippians 4:4 Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say, Rejoice.

Fruit: Bananas



Welcome and attendance: Greet the children today with a big smile.

We're learning about joy today and we want them to see the joy of the Lord in our lives. Give each one their badge and a fruit sticker.



Pre-session: Give the children sheets of white paper with the word Joy written on it. Let them use different colors of crayons and keep outlining the word Joy. Example: Word Joy is first in black, next to the black could be red all the way around, next to red, yellow, next to yellow, green). Continue until the whole page is filled with JOY!!!



Prayer: We don't always feel happy, but if we have Jesus living in us (the Holy Ghost) we should always have joy. Pray with the children for the Holy Ghost today. The Holy Ghost is the only thing that can give true joy.



Offering: Let the children put their offering in the box with the words joy written all over it.



Songs: Bring another homemade instrument today and add it to the previous ones and draw names for the children to use them. Sing two to three songs about Joy. Loud, boisterous songs would be best. All God's Children Love the Holy Ghost, I've Got the Holy Ghost, The Joy of the Lord Is My Strength

Instrument: Place some small bells inside two paper plates and tape the plates together and decorate them.



Memory Verse: Write the memory verse on a dry erase board. Go over the verse several times with the children. (Turn the board around for the older children) and give each child a bible verse scramble sheet. Let them unscramble the memory verse. Give help to those that are having a hard time. When all are done, practice saying the verse together again.



Craft: Give each child a piece of card stock with the word

J O Y written in large letters. Flip the card stock over. Let the children write J- Jesus first, O-others next, Y-you last. Let them glue sequins to the other side onto the letters J O Y. Talk to them about the joy of serving Jesus and others and about how you feel when you do that.



Lesson: Today we have been learning about the fruit of the spirit called Joy. What do you think of when you hear the word joy? Let's all say it really loud-Joy. It just sounds like a great word, doesn't it? It makes you smile. A lot of times we think of joy as the happy feeling we get when something nice happens to us-like when someone gives you ice cream for dessert, or Granny brings you a new toy.

These are things that make us happy. They are not really things that bring joy.

What happens when the ice cream is all gone, or your new toy breaks? It's important for you to understand that joy is not just a feeling like being happy. You can be happy sometimes, but you can be joyful all the time.

This week we are going to learn what true joy is. Our lesson is from Psalm 126:1-3

“When the Lord turned again the captivity of Zion, we were like them that dream. Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with singing, then said among the heathen, the Lord hath done great things for them. The Lord hath done

great things for us, whereof we are glad”. This was the Israelites, God’s people that had all the joy.

What made these people so joyful? They were remembering all the amazing things that the Lord had done for them! God had brought his people back to Jerusalem, he had brought them out of slavery.

King David was another example of someone who had joy. The Bible tells us that when he brought back the ark of God to Jerusalem after it was stolen, he danced before the Lord with all his might. He was very joyful!! He even embarrassed his wife. David told her he was dancing unto the Lord, he was expressing his joy. David learned even through hard times his joy came from God.

Sometimes we think the word joy means the same thing as the word happy.

Joy means more than just being happy. The Bible tells us that one fruit of the Spirit is joy. Joy is an attitude. We can choose to be joyful. Our hearts should be filled with joy, knowing that Jesus has made it possible for us to live forever with him in heaven. Nothing in the world should ever take our joy away when we know that.

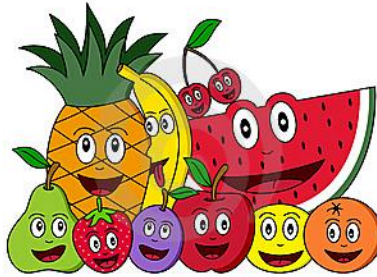
You may be sad sometimes but that can’t take away the joy of knowing Jesus. We can have joy during good times and bad times or when things are difficult or scary. We can be joyful because God has done so many mighty things.

Let’s lift our hands and praise God for all the great things He has done for us. We serve a mighty God.

Fruit Treat: Give the children a banana and let them turn it so that it looks like a smile. Use a sharpie to draw a face on the banana (eye, nose and smile). The children can eat the banana or take it home with them.



Extended Time Game: Seat the children in a circle and give them a banana to pass around. Play music. When the music stops the child holding the banana stands and attempts to say the memory verse. They then are seated on the side and play continues until only one child is remaining.



A Fruitful Garden

Lesson Four: Peace

Lesson at a Glance

Welcome: Badges, fruit stickers, letter “P’s”

Pre-session: Pencils, white paper, crayons

Offering: Basket of Lemons

Songs: Box drum and previous instruments

Memory Verse: Dry erase board, a soft ball

Craft or game: Lemon

Lesson: Fan, water sprayer, CD with storm noises, CD player, model or toy boat

Fruit treat: Lemonade, cups, plates, lemon cake

Take hom: Sour lemon balls, baggies

A Fruitful Garden

Lesson Four: Peace

Scripture Text: Mark 4:35-41

Memory Verse: John 14:27a Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you

Fruit: Lemons



Welcome and Attendance: Welcome children and give each of them a large letter P. Let them guess what fruit of the Spirit the letter P stands for today. Give each one their badge and fruit sticker.



Pre-session: Have children write the word PEACE across the top of their paper. See how many words you can help them make. Some of the non-reading children can pair up with readers and draw pictures of the words that are made.



Prayer: Talk with the children about daily events that are happening in the world. Mention any hurricanes, earthquakes, storms, etc... Let the children pray for the people involved in those situations that God's peace would be there and help them.



Offering: Let the children place their offering in a basket of lemons.



Songs: Add another homemade instrument this week and draw names for the children to play them. Sing songs about peace.

Instrument: Box drum

I've got Peace like a River, Peace, Peace Wonderful Peace, Jesus Loves Me



Memory Verse: Write the memory verse on a dry erase board. Go over the verse several times with the children. The children will be sitting on the floor in a circle for today's verse. Toss or roll a ball to one child. Let them read the first word of the verse before tossing or rolling the ball to someone else, who then says the next word. Continue until the verse is completed. If the ball is dropped, start over again. If time allows you can play the game again or go over the verse reading it together.



Craft: Let the children play a short game of hot lemon. The children will pass the lemon around the circle and when the music stops the child holding the lemon will squeeze the lemon and move out of the circle and sit down. The play will continue until there is only one child left standing with the lemon. Make sure each child squeezes the lemon before they return to their seat. Don't tell the children why they are squeezing the lemon. During the story, one teacher will make lemonade in the kitchen using the lemon that has been squeezed.



Lesson: (Have on hand props for the storm. Fan, water sprayer, cd with storm noises) Does anyone know what this is? (show the boat) It's a boat, isn't it? Boats are made to sail in all kinds of weather aren't they? What are some things that boats are used for? (Let the children tell you their ideas). We use boats for all those things don't we? In our story today, the boat was being used to carry Jesus and his disciples to the other side of the water. Jesus was also using the boat to take a nap. Imagine that

It was getting late in the day and everyone was tired. The disciples were going to go with Jesus to the other side of the water. Maybe to preach to some people who were on the other side the next day? They sent away all the people and took Jesus and got into a ship. Jesus decided to go down on the lower level and go to sleep.

While Jesus was sleeping a great storm came up. There was wind (turn on fan), and waves and thunder and lighting. (Turn on storm cd and spray the children with sprayers). The Bible says it was so stormy that water started filling up the boat. What were they going to do?? The disciples were sure they were about to get washed overboard or that their boat would sink.

They decided they'd better wake up Jesus. He had performed many miracles and they knew he could help them. They went down into the lower level of the boat and woke him up and said, "Master, carets thou not that we perish?" Jesus arose and said unto the sea, Peace be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. (turn off sound effects and fan)

Wow!! Peace in the midst of that storm. Even more amazing was that Jesus could sleep through the storm. Do you know why? Because Jesus is God.

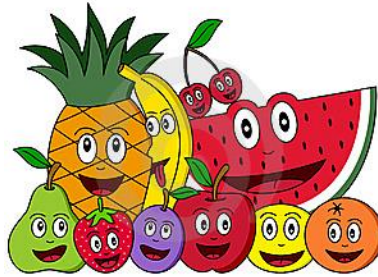
In his flesh he needed to sleep, but as God in the flesh, he could cause the storm to stop. Jesus is our answer for every problem of life. He can cause the storms in your life to stop. Tell the children that you are going to pray and ask God to help them with anything in their lives that is troubling them, Jesus can give them peace today. Pray with the children asking God to help each one. Be sensitive to each child and their need.

Fruit Treat: Tell the children that you bought lemons for them to use in their previous game, but you know lemons are really sour and that they would not want to take one home and eat it. You decided to make something really good for them out of the sour lemons. Ever heard of "If life gives you lemons, make lemonade"? Well that's what I did, I made lemonade out of the lemon that you squeezed during the game. Let's see if anyone likes it. Give the children cups of the lemonade and a small piece of lemon cake. Talk to the children about if things aren't always

perfect, God can give you peace and make good things happen. Just like the lemon and the lemonade.



Extended Time Game: Play a game Lemon, Lemon, Lemonade. This is like duck, duck, goose. All children are seated in a circle facing inward, with one child to begin the play. The child will walk around the circle tapping each child on the head and saying, lemon on each child's head until he says lemonade on a child. That child jumps up and chases the other child back to the place they were sitting. Play continues until all the children have a turn. **Give the children sour lemon candies to take home.**



A Fruitful Garden

Lesson Five: Longsuffering, Job

Lesson at a Glance

Welcome: Badges, fruit stickers

Offering: Offering basket

Songs: Homemade Kazoo (Resources), previous instruments

Memory Verse: Dry erase board, dry erase marker, apple, music

Craft or Game: Two apples, two brooms

Lesson: Dry erase board, dry erase marker, cloth for erasing

Extended Game or Activity: Apples-one per child, bags of dried apples-one per child (Resources)

A Fruitful Garden

Lesson Five: Longsuffering-Job

Scripture Text: Book of Job

Memory Verse: Ephesians 4:2 With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love;

Fruit: Apples



Welcome and Attendance: Welcome each child and give them their badge and attendance sticker.



Pre-session: Explain to the children the meaning of the word longsuffering. This may be a little harder concept for the children to grasp today. The definition of longsuffering is: having or showing patience in spite of troubles, especially those caused by other people. Our carnal nature doesn't like being patient, especially when a problem is caused by someone else. Tell the children we need God to help us to be patient with other people and not always ready to take things into our own hands. We need to let God "unfold the rose".



Prayer: Pray with the children that God would help us to pray for other people, even those that have caused us problems.

Offering: Let the children put their offering in the offering basket that is provided. Talk to them about how their offering is being used to help the church.



Songs: Bring another homemade instrument and draw names for the children to play the instruments.

Instrument: Kazoo

Have a Little Talk With Jesus, Father Abraham, All God's Children Love the Holy Ghost



Memory Verse: Write the memory verse on a dry erase board of a poster. Read the verse several times with the children explaining what the verse means. Seat children in a circle. Let the children pass an apple around the circle and play music. When the music stops the child with the apple will read the memory verse out loud. Play continues until all children have had an opportunity to read the verse.



Craft: Play the game "Race the Apple". Divide the children into two or three groups and give each group a broom and an apple. The children will race from one end of the room to the other and push their apple into a basket at the other end and then turn around and push the apple back to the next person in line. The apple will be difficult to push and the outcome of the game is teaching the children long suffering. After there is a winning team, talk to the children about how hard the game was, and how they had to be long suffering and keep trying to get it to the end line.



Lesson: Our lesson today is about long-suffering. Long-suffering (patience is a Fruit of the Spirit, and something that God wants us to develop in our lives. Is it fun waiting on things? Some things like Christmas are fun waiting on because

we know that we will have presents to open when Christmas comes, but would it be more fun if we didn't have to wait and could just open everything the day we see it wrapped up? Sometimes we just have to wait!

Our bible story today is about a man that God helped to develop long-suffering in. His name was Job. Job was a very rich man. In fact he might have been one of the richest men that lived at his time. He also was a man that loved God. The Bible says he rose early in the morning and made offering to the Lord and prayed for his children.

One day Satan came to God and was kind of making fun of Job. He told God that Job was only serving God, because God was good to him and because he had lots of things. Satan said that if Job lost everything, he would curse God and not live for Him. God knew this wasn't true. He told Satan to go ahead and take away everything Job had, only he could not touch his life.

Job had seven sons and three daughters, he possessed 7,000 sheep, 3,000 camels, 500 yoke of oxen, and 500 female donkeys and very many servants. On one side of this board let's right all that down. (On one side of dry erase board have the word-Before at top, on the other side have the word-After. Write down all the things he had before. As they are taken away, erase them.)

One day after this conversation between God and Satan, Job was sitting in his house when one of his servants came running in to him. He told Job that one of his enemies has taken all his donkeys and oxen and killed his servants. While that servant was speaking another servant came and told Job that a fire from heaven fell and killed all his sheep and more of his servants. While that servant was speaking another servant came and told him another group of his enemies had made a raid on his camels and took all of them and killed more of his servants. While that

servant was speaking another one came and told him that a great wind came up and destroyed the house where all his children were and killed all of them.

Wow, Satan really was doing a number on Job!! What did have Job have left on our board? Nothing, right? Within a matter of minutes he lost all that he had. Man, Job must have been mad. What do you think he did? Would you have been upset? The Bible tells us that Job arose and tore his robe and shaved his head and fell on the ground and worshipped, Can you believe that?? He said, “I was born with nothing, and when I die I will have nothing, The Lord giveth and the Lord taketh away, blessed be the name of the Lord”. The Bible says that in all this Job did not sin or charge God wrongly.

If you can imagine, things even got worse for Job. His wife came to him and told him to curse God and die. He told her she was a foolish woman, he was going to still serve God. He had three “friends” who came and told him that he must be a bad sinner for all these things to happen to him. They really made him feel bad, but he still trusted in God. He even got boils all over his body and had to scrape his sores. Yuck. Poor Job. You’d think he’d just give up, right. But not Job, he just kept on being long-suffering and trusting God.

The Bible tells us that God saw Job’s patience and rewarded him. The last book of Job in the Bible tells us that God restored Job with more than he had before. God gave him more animals and Job and his wife had more children. (add back everything with a plus sign beside every item) They were happy and God blessed Job for his patience.

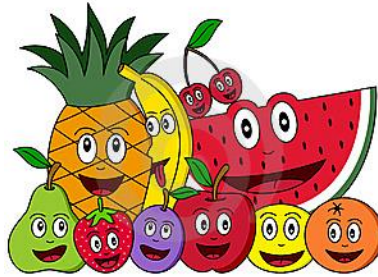
Sometimes the only way that God can help us develop long-suffering is to make us wait on things. Does God give us the answer to our prayers every single time that we pray? Yes, he always answers our prayers, but does He always answer immediately, exactly when we ask the first time? No, sometimes he wants to see if

we are really patient and willing to wait on Him to answer our prayer. God always answers our prayers, but sometimes we have to be willing to wait on the answer.

Let's pray and ask God to help us to learn to be long-suffering and wait on Him.
Lead the children in prayer.



Extended Game or Activity: Give each child an apple and some dried apple chips and the directions for making dried apples. Tell them they can eat their apples and dried apples. Or if they are very patient, when they get home with their parents they can make dried apples out of their apple following the directions. It takes a while to make dried apples and you have to be patient, but they are so good and also a lot of fun to make.



A Fruitful Garden

Lesson Six: Gentleness, Jesus the Good Shepherd

Lesson at a Glance

Welcome: Badges, stickers, bags of cotton balls-one per child

Pre-session: Crayons, picture of shepherd with sheep (Resources)

Offering: Small stuffed sheep, offering basket

Songs: Sand blocks (Resources), previous instruments

Memory Verse: Draw a large sheep on a poster board and write words or phrases of the memory verse all over the sheep

Craft or Game: Sensory Bag materials (Resources)

Lesson: Cotton balls with eyes drawn on with sharpie-one per child, pictures of robber, wolf, Shepherd (Resources)

Extended Game Activity: Balloons with sheep faces drawn on them, brooms

Take home: Grapes in baggies

A Fruitful Garden

Lesson Six: Gentleness, The Good Shepherd

Scripture Text: John 10

Memory Verse: John 10:11 I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep.

Fruit: Grapes



Welcome and Attendance: Welcome the children and give them a small bag of cotton balls to use in memory verse today. Give them their badges and attendance sticker.



Pre-session: Color the picture of the shepherd and his sheep. As shepherd is an unfamiliar man to most of the children. Explain how the shepherd takes care of the sheep as the children color.



Prayer: We serve a gentle and loving God who cares about each one of the children. Read to them Matthew 19:13, 14. Let the children pray and love Jesus today.



Offering: Place a small stuffed lamb in the offering basket today. The children can put their offering next to the lamb.



Songs: Bring another homemade instrument and draw names for the children to play them.

Instrument: Sand blocks



Songs: What a mighty God we serve, He's got the whole world in his hands,



Memory Verse: Show the children the poster board sheep with the memory verse written in phrases on it. Read the memory verse several times with the children. With your help let the children put glue on the cotton balls given them in pre-session. They will cover up one section of the verse on the sheep at a time and then read the verse. Continue covering up a section of the verse with cotton balls and reciting the verse until the sheep is covered in cotton balls and the children are reciting the verse by memory. Have a drawing at the end of class for the sheep.



Craft: Let the children make sensory bags using directions in resources. Talk to the children about when they use the sensory bags that they must be gentle and squeeze them gently or they will break. Talk about what gentleness means. (This may seem like a simple activity, but it does teach the meaning of gentleness)



Lesson: We learned a little bit earlier about the fruit of the spirit gentleness. I think one good example in the bible of the spirit of gentleness is the story of the Good Shepherd.

(Before the class, use a marker to make two black eyes on each cotton ball. These will be the sheep. Have available the wolf picture, and the robber picture)

Read John 10:11-15

Now, I am going to give everyone a little sheep to take care of. Put your hands out. (Give each child a cotton ball sheep. You can pet your sheep with your finger, talk nice to him and keep him close, but don't lose him. I want you to be like the Good Shepherd. Can you remember who that Good Shepherd was? **Jesus!**

We know that a farmer takes care of plants and that a rancher takes care of cows but who takes care of the sheep?" **A shepherd**

Let's find a good shepherd to watch over our sheep. How about this guy? **Show the wolf.** What about him? No, he will eat the sheep.

What about this guy? Show the robber **“No, he will rob the sheep and he might even hurt them.”**

Show the picture of Jesus **“What about him, will he be okay to watch the sheep?”**
Yes!

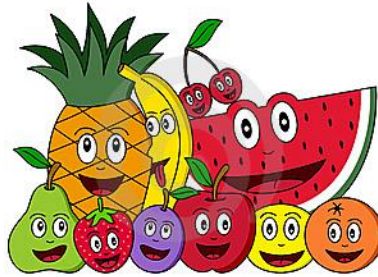
We know our Good Shepherd is Jesus. He is a very gentle shepherd. He gives us the bible to tell us how to live. He sends our Pastor to preach the word of God to us and he sends us teachers to teach us the word of God.

There is also something else that Jesus gives us to help us live for Him. He gives us the Holy Ghost. What is the Holy Ghost? That's right, it's God's spirit living inside of us. If we start to wander away and do things that are wrong the Holy Ghost convicts our hearts and teaches us the right things to do. How do we receive the Holy Ghost? Talk about the plan of salvation and lead the children in prayer.



Extended Game or Activity: Divide the children into two teams. Give each team a broom and a balloon “sheep”. The children will race each other to the other end of the room and back pushing the balloon “sheep” with the broom. Play will continue until all children have had a turn.

Give each child a baggie of grapes to take home. Remind them to be gentle and not to squish the grapes.



A Fruitful Garden

Lesson Seven: Goodness, King Josiah

Lesson at a Glance

Welcome: Badges, fruit stickers

Pre-session: Fruit Bingo game, small candy for markers

Offering: Basket with real or plastic fruit

Songs: Comb Kazoo (Resources), previous instruments

Memory Verse: Dry erase board, dry erase marker, cloth for erasing

Craft or Game: Sun catcher materials (Resources)

Lesson: Tape the story ahead of time for the children

Extended Game Activity: Kiwi fruit-one per child, Fruit Bingo game, markers

Fruitful Garden

Lesson Seven Goodness-King Josiah

Scripture Text: II Kings 22

Memory Verse: Psalm 34:8 O taste and see that the Lord is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him.

Fruit: Kiwi fruit



Welcome and Attendance: Welcome each child today, give them their badge and sticker for attendance



Pre-session: Play fruit bingo game.



Prayer: Let the children pray about their needs. Let them know that God does answer prayer. We want to build trust in God in our children's hearts.



Offering: Let the children place their offering in a fruit basket made up of real or plastic fruit. Talk to them about their favorite fruit.



Songs: Bring another homemade instrument and draw names for the children to play the instruments.

Instrument: Comb kazoo

When I Think Of the Goodness of Jesus, Father Abraham, The Wise Man and the Foolish Man



Memory Verse: Write the memory verse on a dry erase board. Read the verse several times with the children. Erase a few words and say the verse again. Continue erasing and saying the verse until the whole verse has been erased and

the children are saying it from memory. Let them recite the verse again as you write it on the board.



Craft or Game: Make sun catchers. Talk to the children about why we are making sun catchers. The fruit of the spirit goodness is something that begins inside us and shines out so that other people see it. The sun catcher reflects the sun, so should goodness reflect what we do.



Lesson: We are going to talk about the fruit of the spirit goodness today. What does the word goodness mean? Give the children a chance to answer and discuss. Since the word starts with good I would think that it might mean being good. Can we be good on our own? I don't think so. The bible tells us in Romans 3:12 that there is none good no not one. That must mean we need help to be good. We need the Holy Ghost in our lives to help us be good.

Our story today is kind of interesting because it is about a boy who became king of Israel when he was only 8 years. That's pretty young isn't it? Listen carefully and let's hear what happened. (Tape record the story today for the children. Even though it's the same person they hear every week, it will be fun for them to listen. Use as much drama as possible in telling the story).

In the Old Testament there were many different kings. Manasseh was an evil king. His son Amon was also an evil king. When Amon died, his son Josiah was only 8 years old and he became the king. It would make sense that he would be an evil king also, after all his father and grandfather were both evil kings. But the Bible tells us that Josiah did what was right in the sight of God. Josiah wanted the people to worship God. When he was a young man Josiah had men tear down the altars and the idols that the evil kings had allowed. He had men clean and repair the temple. While the temple was being cleaned the book of God's law was found. Josiah cried when he found out about God's laws because he and all the people had not been following them. Josiah made a promise to God that he would keep all of God's commandments. Josiah told the people that they had to serve the Lord. Josiah was a good king. He did the right things and showed goodness in his life.

We should want to show goodness in our lives too. By loving God and doing the right things to other people we show goodness. We should always be ready to do the right thing. As we said, the Holy Ghost helps us to be good. How do we get the Holy Ghost in our lives? Explain the plan of salvation and lead the children in prayer.



Extended Game or Activity: Give each child a kiwi fruit. Talk about how yucky the outside feels, but how sweet the inside of the fruit is. We have to open up the fruit to see how good it is. That's the way with goodness. We should have goodness on the inside of us, so that others would want to be our friends. We should also be willing to open ourselves up and be willing to do good things for others and not just be stingy with our time and resources. If time allows play the fruit bingo game again.

A Fruitful Garden

Lesson Eight: Faith, Abraham

Lesson at a Glance

Welcome: Badges, fruit stickers, small baggies of coconut-one per child

Offering: Fruit basket

Songs: Coconut shells- break in two and clean, previous instruments

Memory Verse: Dry erase board, marker, white paper-one per child, pencils

Craft or Activity: Coconut, shredded coconut, almond joy bar, hammer

Lesson: Blindfolds-one per child

Extended Game Activity: Dry erase board

Take Home: Baggies with coconut-one per child, snack size almond joy bars-one per child

A Fruitful Garden

Lesson Eight: Faith-Abraham

Scripture Text: Genesis 12:1, Genesis 17:17, Genesis 22

Memory Verse: Romans 10:17 so then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Fruit: Coconut



Welcome and attendance: Welcome each child and give them their badges and sticker for attendance. Give each child a small baggie of coconut to try. Some will like it and some will not!



Pre-session: Give each child a faith word search and a pencil



Prayer: Explain to the children what faith is. Children seem to grasp the concept of faith much easier than adults do. They learn to trust parents, teachers, Pastor and therefore they trust and have faith in God. Take their prayer requests and believe God with them.



Offering: Let the children put their offering in the fruit basket. Tell them you appreciate their faithfulness in bringing an offering.



Songs: Bring in another homemade instrument and draw names for the children to play the instruments.

Instrument: Coconut shells

Have Faith in God, Father Abraham, Running Over



Memory Verse: Write the memory verse on a dry erase board. Read the memory verse with the children several times. Give each child a sheet of paper and pencil. Have the children write the memory verse and their name on the paper and then give their paper to the person to their right. They will then write the memory verse again on the paper they have been given. They will then move their paper to the right one more time and again write the verse on the paper they are given. The children can then give the papers back to the original owners. Turn the papers over and have the children recite the verse from memory.



Craft: Bring a coconut to show the children and also a bag of shredded coconut, and an almond joy bar. Show the shredded coconut. I love coconut. You can use it to make so many good things, like this candy bar. It's one of my favorite candy bars. Open the candy bar and show the children the coconut inside. Yummy!! Did you know that this shredded coconut comes from the inside of this- (show the coconut)? How did you know that? You just believed someone when they told you? Have you ever really saw the inside of a coconut? Do you think it will be easy for us to get the fruit out of this coconut? I don't think so. We will need to cut the "hair off of the coconut" and then use a hammer to break open the outer shell to get inside to the fruit. Let's see if we can do it. Use the hammer to break the shell and show the children the inside white fruit. If possible cut out small pieces for the children to taste.



Lesson: Blindfold each of the children and make sure they cannot see. Tell them you want them to be very quiet and follow your voice and directions as you lead them to the story time, (or around the room). Take them the long way and give different directions as they go. They may not talk to you or each other and must follow the directions as you lead them by faith. Let them take off blindfolds and settle for the story.

Was that kind of scary, following someone with a blindfold on? Even though you knew you could trust me, it was still a little scary.

That's the way Abraham was in the story today. Abraham has been called the father of the faithful. Some of the things God told him sounded unbelievable. Some of the things sounded crazy. One day God told Abraham to take his wife and go into a land that He would give him. Abraham had no idea where he was going to go to, but he picked up and followed God. We would probably question God and ask him all kinds of questions. But not Abraham, he just had faith in God and followed. Do you know God even told Abraham he was going to have a son when he was 100 years old and when Sarah was 90?? That would really have us asking God some questions, wouldn't it? But Abraham had faith in God and just believed what God told him. It came true, he had a baby boy and named him Isaac when he was 100 years old. Wow!!! But just like you with the coconut, Abraham believed what God told him. Was it easy for Abraham to believe God? Was everything God told Abraham to do easy? I don't think so either. An example of this was when God told Abraham to take his son Isaac up on a mountain and offer a sacrifice. God didn't tell Abraham to take a sacrifice animal with him, just his son. When they got to the top of the mountain, Abraham laid his son down and started to take a knife to sacrifice his son to God. It didn't make sense to Abraham but he had faith in God. God stopped Abraham and told him to look in the bushes and go get the ram that was caught. He was supposed to sacrifice the ram instead of his son. God had provided the sacrifice.

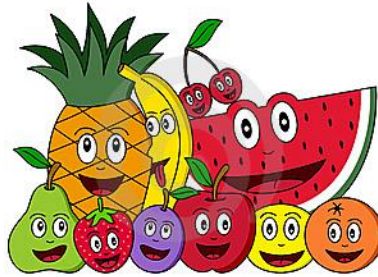
Having faith is not always easy, sometimes we can't see what's "inside" when we just decide to believe God. But the bible tells us something we can always trust in. The bible says that "God is always faithful". He will never leave us nor forsake us.

Let's lift up our hands and thank him for being faithful to us.



Extended Game or Activity: Play a game of hang man using words in the story.

Give the children a small bag of coconut and a snack size almond joy bar to take home.



A Fruitful Garden

Lesson Nine: Meekness

Lesson at a Glance

Welcome: Badges and fruit stickers

Pre-session: Cherry bowl activity sheet (Resources)-one per child, red construction paper, nickels, pencils, glue

Offering: Bowl of cherries

Songs: Make another drum of choice to add, previous instruments

Memory Verse: Dry erase board, marker, Cut out cherries from red construction paper and write Memory verse on them

Craft or game: 18” piece of wire-one per child (thin coat hangers work well), packing peanuts

Lesson: Sign: If you think meek is weak, try being meek for one week, dry erase board, marker

Extended Game Activity: Bags of cherries-enough for each child, color pages, play-dough, word, searches

A Fruitful Garden

Lesson Nine: Meekness

Scripture Text: Numbers 12:3

Memory Verse: Psalms 25:9 The meek will he guide in judgment: and the meek will he teach his way.

Fruit: Cherries



Welcome and Attendance: Welcome each child and give them their badges and sticker for attendance.



Pre-session: Give the children the activity sheet with a big bowl on it. Let the children use red construction paper and nickels to make cherries. Let the children draw around the nickels to make the cherries and glue them onto the bowl.



Prayer: Explain to the children the meaning of meekness. “The act of being meek, having a submissive nature. Not willing to fight.” We should always have a submissive nature. Meek is not week. Help the children pray to be willing to submit to those in authority without an attitude.



Offering: Let the children place their offering in a bowlful of cherries today.



Songs: Bring a homemade instrument to add to the others thus far. Draw names for the children to play the instruments.

Instrument: Add another drum

He’s a Peach of a Savior, I’ve Got the Holy Ghost, One, One One Way to God



Memory Verse: Write the memory verse on dry erase board. Use the cherries with the memory verse that has been prepared ahead of time. Scramble the cherries up and let the children work together to put the memory verse in order. You could make two sets and divide the group into teams or work together as a group. Review the memory verse several times after they finish.



Craft: Give each child an 18 inch piece of wire, (thin coat hangers should work) Let them string packing peanuts onto the wire leaving an inch of space at the end of the wire. After they have completed their wire help them twist the wire into a heart shape and secure the ends. Talk to them about meekness and tell them that when we show meekness and respond the way we should others see God's love.



Lesson: Let's review the fruit of the spirit that we have learned so far. Give time for the children to go over each one.

(Make a sign saying: If you think meek is weak, try being meek for one week.)

Today we are going to talk about meekness. Do you think if someone is meek, that they are weak? Many people in our world today think that is true. But that's not the definition that we are given in the Bible. The definition of meekness in the Bible is "strength under control". The world defines "strong" people as those who are assertive, take charge, proud, independent. A meek person is the opposite of these things. A meek person is the opposite of these things. A meek person is willing to be submissive, humble and gentle, rely on God and is dependent upon him to provide strength. We cannot be meek on our own. Our human nature is to try to be number one and always be the top dog. We need to let God help us to put others first and not always have to be better than someone else.

Three people in the Bible are described as being meek: Jesus (Matt. 11:29), (Matt. 21:5), Paul (II Corinthians 10:1) and Moses (Numbers 12:3). (Write the three names on dry erase or chalkboard) Each of these men was amongst the most persecuted in the Bible. Each of these men demonstrated "strength under control"- Give examples: Jesus when tempted by the devil, could have called a legion of angels, but he handled Satan by himself and used the word of God against him. Paul was persecuted many times and always stayed under his own body and

controlled himself, Moses spoke to Pharaoh and never was out of control when he dealt with him.

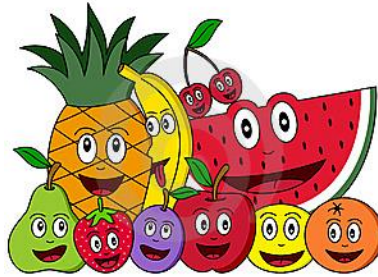
Show sign you have made: **If you think meek means weak, try being meek for one week.**

If you think it is easy to be meek, try being meek for one week and see how hard it is. Will you try that for one week? Let's make it a challenge for this coming week. (Talk about some problems that might come up and how to handle them meekly). It is very hard to be humble and rely on God, we try to do everything in our own strength. Meek is not Weak. Let's pray and ask God to help us have a meek spirit and to help us this week as we strive to be meek.



Extended game or activity: Show the children the cherries and tell them that they normally are in pairs. In our own nature we cannot exhibit the fruit of the spirit meekness. When someone doesn't treat us right our first reaction is to strike back. We need to be like these cherries and have someone to help us do right. We need the Holy Ghost to help us treat others right, even if they don't treat us right. Give the children cherries in a bag, or they can eat them now. You could also bring chocolate covered cherries and give the children some.

If time permits put the children in groups of two and let them choose an activity to do together. (You could have color pages, play dough, word searches, etc... on the table for them to choose from)



A Fruitful Garden

Lesson Ten: Temperance

Lesson at a Glance

Welcome: Badges and fruit stickers

Pre-session: Basket or box, chocolate chip cookies-bagged in two's (enough for each child to have two bags)

Offering: Fruit basket

Songs: Comb Kazoo, previous instruments

Memory Verse: Dry erase board, two sets of Duplo blocks with memory verse written in phrases on them

Craft or Game: Dry erase board, 2 bean bags, 2 buckets, small candy prizes

Lesson: Bulls eye drawn on a poster board, balloons-one per child, wood blocks and plastic people-two sets, copy of skit

Extended Game or Activity: Watermelon, bowls, napkins

Take Home: Bags of chocolate chip cookies (those who did not take them in pre-session)

A Fruitful Garden

Lesson Ten: Temperance

Scripture Text: Proverbs 25:28

Memory Verse: Proverbs 25:28 He that hath no rule over his own spirit is like a city that is broken down, and without walls.

Fruit: Watermelon



Welcome and Attendance: Welcome each child and give them their badge and let them put their last fruit sticker on. Count the number of stickers and commend each one for their attendance. Let them know they can take their badges home today.



Pre-session: Have a box or basket on the table with chocolate chip cookies that are wrapped in two's. Tell the children that they can have one package of the cookies now or wait until later and have two packages, it is their choice. Let them decide what they want to choose. Make sure each child in attendance today is given the choice.



Prayer: Take the children's prayer request and pray with them about their needs.



Offering: Let the children put their offering in the fruit basket



Songs: Bring another homemade instrument from home and let the children draw names to play the instruments. Sing a few fun songs with the children

Instrument: Comb kazoo

Father Abraham, Praise Him, I've Got a Feeling



Memory Verse: Write the memory verse on a dry erase board. Prepare the Duplo blocks with the memory verse before class. Divide the children into two teams and give each of them a set of the blocks. Let them build the blocks together to make the memory verse. After both groups have completed, go over the memory verse several times and give time for each of the children to say their verse.



Craft: Divide the group into two teams. Divide a dry erase board into two sides and write the word temperance on each side. Give each group a bean bag and place a container about five feet away from each group. The children will try to throw the bean bag into the container. Each time they get it in they will get to mark off one letter of temperance. They will need to practice self-control and take their time throwing the bean bag into the container. The first team to mark off all their letters wins a prize.



Lesson: Place a bull's eye target on the wall. Give each child a balloon and let them take turns blowing up their balloon and letting it go towards the target. Was it easy getting the balloon to hit the target? Talk about how the balloons were out of control.

When we were playing the balloon game, were you able to control the balloon? Not really, huh? We're going to learn the last fruit of the spirit today. Read Galatians 5:22, 23. The last one is temperance. What does that word mean? Let the children give their definitions.

The true meaning of this word is self-control. Self-control means we are making ourselves behave the way we are supposed to. Self-control can be as simple as only eating one candy bar when we'd really like to have two or it can be losing our temper and getting really mad over something and then saying or doing the wrong thing.

(Divide the children into two groups and let them build a fort with the wood blocks and place plastic people inside the walls of the fort).

Proverbs 25:28 tells us "He that hath no rule over his own spirit is like a city that is broken down and without walls" In each of your block forts, as long as the walls stand you have control over the enemy. You can keep him out. But if the walls

fall, (knock over the first city), can the enemy come in? Yes he can, and then he can overcome everyone that lives in the fort. Show the fort that is still standing, as long as the walls stand the enemy has to stay out.

Our lives are like this fort. Without walls of protection the enemy (Satan) can cause us to do things we wouldn't do if we had self-control. Let's see if this little skit can help you understand better.

(Have one of the teachers perform the skit for the children)

Mary: Hi everybody. I just got home from school and my mom isn't here. Wonder where she went. Hey what's this... a note? It says "Dear Mary, I had to run to the store, will be back in a few minutes. Do not eat any cookies and spoil your appetite. I will make dinner as soon as I get back. Don't eat any cookies out of the cookie jar. Love, Mom."

So, I'm not supposed to eat any cookies. That's OK. I don't even want a cookie. Besides, the cookies in that jar are probably just plain old chocolate chip cookies anyway... (hesitates) Plain old delicious choc lately cookies with great big yummy chocolate chips. That sounds so good. Just the thing for after a nice long day at school. Maybe I will just have one. (jumps back)

What am I doing?! I almost took a cookie when my mom told me not to. Well why doesn't she want me to have a cookie anyway? I don't know why she wouldn't want me to have one. Maybe I misunderstood the note. Better read it again. (Clears throat.)

"Dear Mary, I had to run to the store, I will be back in a few minutes. Do not eat any cookies and spoil your appetite. I will make dinner as soon as I get back. Do not eat any cookies out of the cookie jar. Love, Mom."

Hmm... Don't eat any cookies. Don't eat any cookies. That's it! She says don't eat **any** cookies. That's like saying don't eat just any old cookies. Eat the cookies in the cookie jar. That must have been what she meant. Alright! Hey wait a minute. What was the last part again? Oh yeah. She said "don't any cookies out of the cookie jar."

I guess that means I can't eat them. How could I eat them if they have to stay in the jar? Hmmm...

I know! I could try to suck them through a straw. Yeah yeah! That's what I can ... no, that's not going to work. Oh boy... this is awful. I didn't even want a cookie until I found out I wasn't supposed to have one. Now I can't stop thinking about cookies. I need to pray about this. That's what my mom and dad, my pastor and my Sunday School teacher say I should do when I'm tempted to do something wrong. (Bows head.)

God, this is Mary. I need help resisting temptation. I want a cookie, but I need to obey my mom. Please help me to do what's right. Help me to have self-control. In Jesus' name, Amen. Maybe there is something in the Bible about this. (Pages through the Bible.) Let's see... self-control, self-control... Here it is!

Hey! Self-control is one of the fruits of the spirit! Self-control is when you are tempted to do something wrong but you don't do it instead. It says that God wants us to have self-control and there's more! It says in Hebrews 2:18 That Jesus suffered when he was tempted, so he is able to help those who are being tempted. Then it says in 1 Corinthians 10:13 that there is nothing that that we can't resist with God's help and that even when we are tempted He will always give us a way out.

Wow! That's an awesome promise. Now I just have to figure out my way out. Hey! I know! I can call my friend Susie on the phone and tell her what I just found out. The last fruit of the spirit is Self-Control! I'm going to go call her right now. (Teacher exits).

That was really hard for Mary to resist the cookies wasn't it? When we are faced with doing right and wrong, the fruit of the spirit temperance will help us to do right. Instead of hitting someone when we get mad or disobeying our parents, we can control our actions. We can only do this with the help of the Holy Ghost. We all need to have the Holy Ghost in our lives or we will make the wrong choice and sin. Go over the plan of salvation with the children and have an altar call



Extended Game or Activity: Show the children a whole watermelon, and then open it up and show them the seeds and the fruit. It takes a lot of self-control to eat a piece of watermelon. Sometimes I don't like to eat it because I have to take out the seeds and work around them to get to the watermelon. You don't want to swallow a watermelon seed and have a watermelon growing in you, do you? Let the children have a piece of watermelon and give them bowls to put their seeds. **Give two bags of cookies to those children who exhibited self-control, by waiting till the end of the lesson to get their cookies. Talk again about the importance of controlling our self. Remind the Children: Next week will be a Fruitful Garden Party!!!!**

A Fruitful Garden

Lesson Eleven

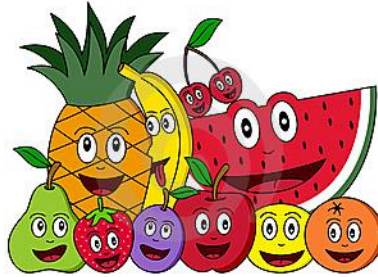
Party and Review

Have a fun time with the children today. There is all kind of fruit snacks that you can make or have with the kids, a really fun activity is to carve a watermelon bowl and fill it up with fruits and serve as a treat. You can carve the bowl ahead of time and let the children add the fruit. Seems like the children eat fruit better when they are helping to make it. You can also give each child a bowl of marshmallow fruit dip.

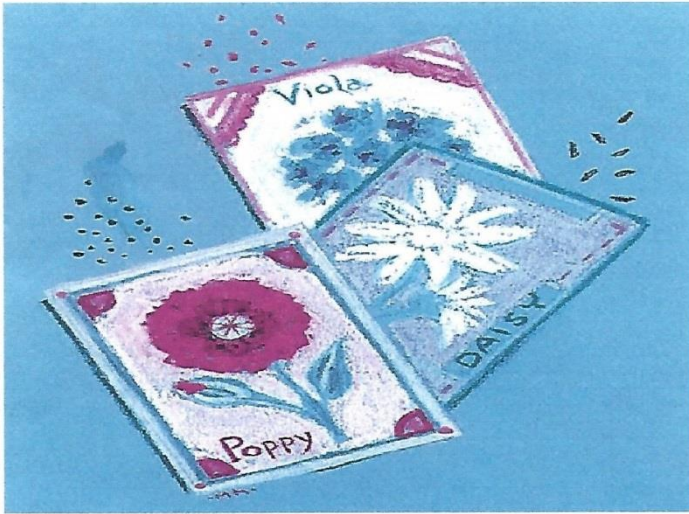
Fruit Basket Upset is a favorite game or just go outside and play tag or relay races.

See how many children can name all the fruits they have studied, review memory verses and stories.

Give a short introduction to the next series. (We usually do a Holy Ghost Sunday next week, we have puppets, skits and a Bible lesson. We come expecting someone to receive the Holy Ghost. It also allows the teachers another week to get the room decorations done).



Resources



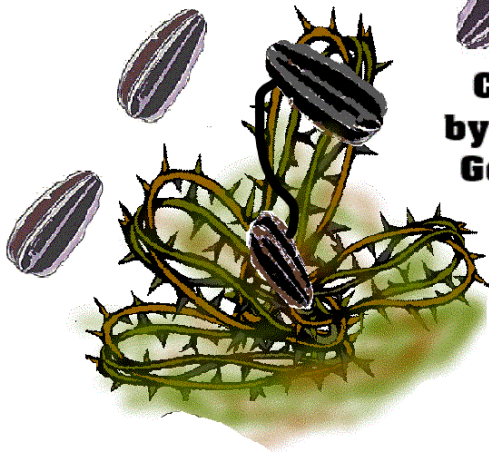
The Parable of the Sower

Instructions: Mount gameboard to file folder. Use sunflower seeds for playing pieces.

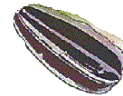
Play: roll a die, move your guy and try to make it to the good soil without getting caught. The first player to the end wins the game.

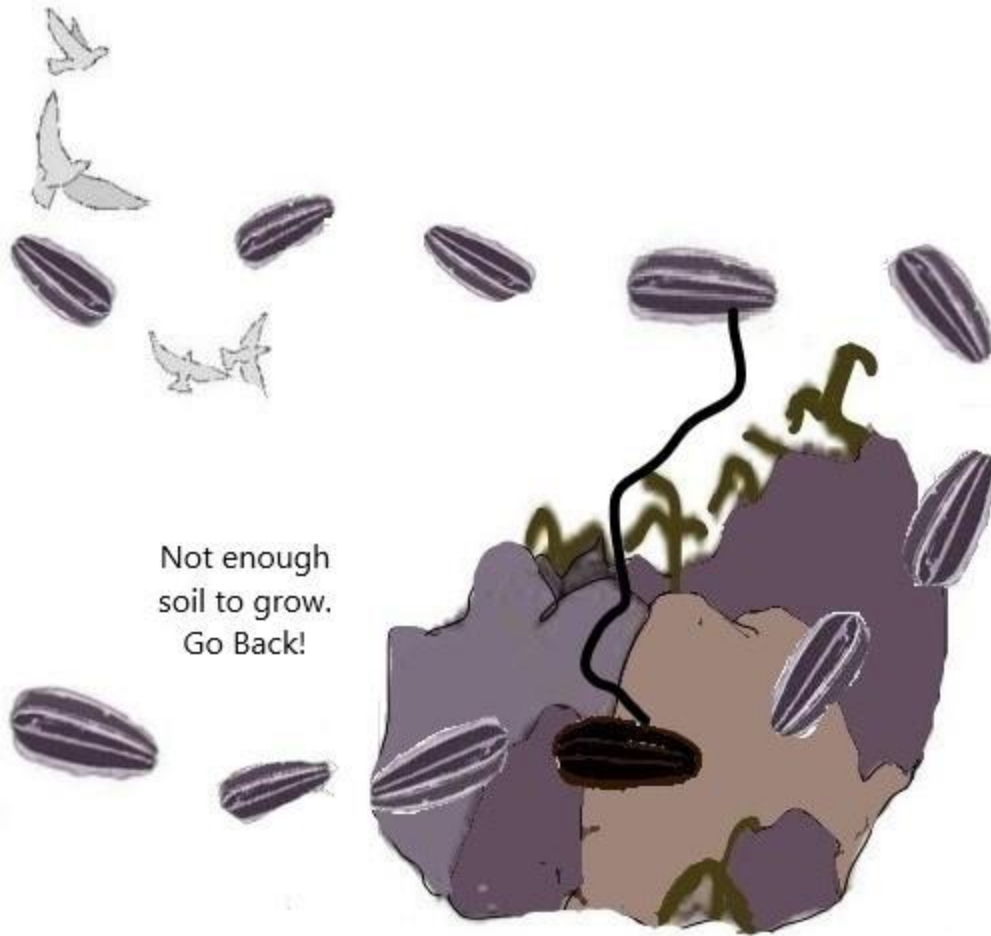


**Snatched up
by birds.
Loose a Turn!**



**Choked
by thorns!
Go back.**





Not enough
soil to grow.
Go Back!



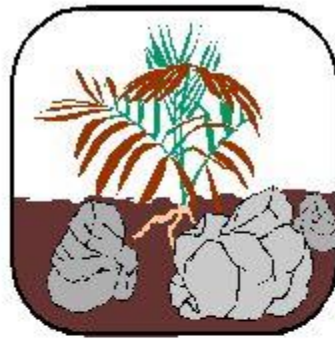
Good
Soil



A Sower Went Out to Sow



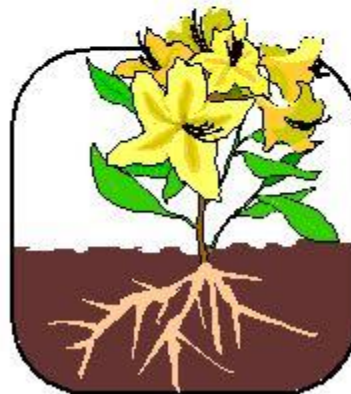
packed soil



stony ground



thorny ground



good soil

Dirt Cups

Ingredients

1 pkg. (3.9 oz.) chocolate instant pudding

2 cups cold milk

1 tub whipped topping, thawed

15 Oreo type cookies, finely crushed, divided

10 gummy worms

Directions

Beat pudding mix and milk in large bowl with whisk 2 min. Let stand 5 min. Stir in whipped topping and ½ cup cookie crumbs.

Spoon into 10 (6-7 oz.) paper or plastic cups, top with remaining cookie crumbs.

Refrigerate 1 hour. Top with gummy worms just before serving.



Rice and Spoon Maracas

Items Needed:

Plastic Easter eggs

White tape

Popcorn kernels

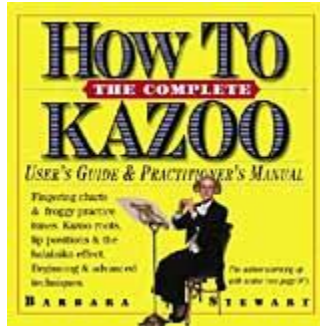
Plastic spoons

Markers

Instructions:

- Fill eggs with popcorn
- Tape plastic spoons to the side
- Wrap tape around the egg and spoons
- Tape the spoon ends together
- Decorate with markers

Homemade Kazoo



Items Needed:

Small or large Comb

Sheet of paper

Instructions:

- Tear a piece of the paper a little larger than the comb and place over the comb
- Hold the paper in place around the comb, place the comb in mouth and blow across the paper making a humming sound.



Dried Apples

Ingredients

4 cups water

2 large apples, unpeeled if preferred

½ cup lemon juice

Directions:

1. Position racks in the upper and lower third of the oven; preheat to 200F. Line 2 large baking sheets with parchment paper.
2. Combine water and lemon juice in a medium bowl.
3. Using a sharp knife or a mandolin, slice 2 large apples as thin as possible. Soak the slices in the lemon water for 30 minutes. Drain and pat the slices as dry as possible with paper towels. Place on the prepared baking sheets in a single layer.
4. Bake the slices on the upper and lower racks for 1 hour. Remove from the oven and turn each slice over, return the pans to the oven. Bake 1 more hour for soft dried apples or 2 more hours for crispy apple chips. Turn off the oven, crack the door and leave the apples in the oven until the oven cools completely. 1-2 hours.

Sand Blocks Instructions

Items Needed:

Two small wooden blocks

Sandpaper

Staples and staple gun

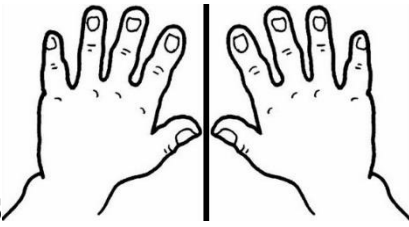
Instructions:

Cut the sandpaper a little larger than the blocks leaving room to staple.

Staple the sandpaper onto the blocks.

Rub the two blocks together to make beautiful music.

Sensory Bags



Items Needed:

Zip Lock Baggies (Sandwich or quart size)

Colored Duct Tape

Hair Gel

Various small objects: beads, foam shapes, anything that will fit in the bag and give a sensory feel.

Instructions:

Place the hair gel into the bag and add the objects that have been chosen. The children will enjoy choosing what they want in their bags.

Close the zip lock on the bag and cover the zip lock with colored duct tape of the child's choice.







MATERIALS FOR SUN CATCHERS

- Wax paper
- Colored tissue paper (not bleeding)
- Liquid starch (you can find this in the laundry section of the grocery or drug store) or watered-down glue

Place the wax paper on a sheet of newspaper. Brush the liquid starch over the wax paper generously.

Tear up pieces of the tissue paper and place on the wax paper, covering the area. Brush once more with starch and repeat the process. Let dry and hang in a window to catch the sun.

