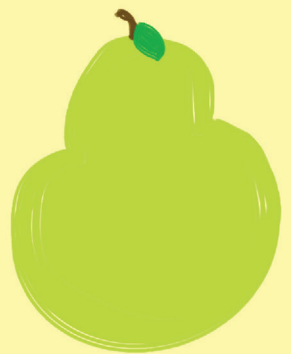
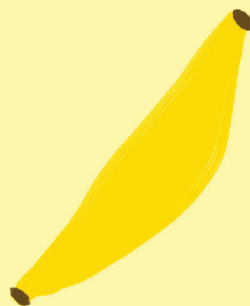
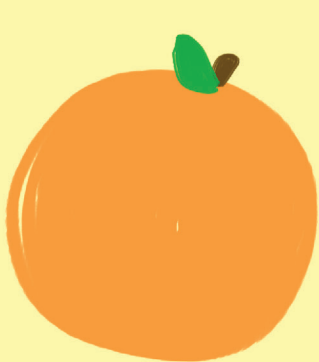


FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT



FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

MONTHLY PREPARATION GUIDE

BONUS LESSON

In the *Fruit of the Spirit* lesson, we focus on teaching kids the nine Fruit of the Spirit from Galatians 5. For this week only, we will be talking about how the Holy Spirit is the One who gives us the Fruit of the Spirit. The verse the class will be memorizing is found in Galatians 5:22-23—"But the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control." Join in with the children as they discover more about the Holy Spirit.

ELEMENTARY

LESSON MATERIALS: Large Poster Paper (1 per class), Poster Markers (1 pack per class), Wall Tape (1 roll per class), *Good Fruits* (1 set per class), *Bad Fruits* (1 set per child), *Fruit of the Spirit Tree* Page (1 per child), Pencils (1 per child), Markers or Crayons

PREPARATION: Draw a large tree (about 3-feet tall) using the poster paper and markers, and then tape it to the wall.

PRE-K

LESSON MATERIALS: Large Poster Paper (1 per class), Poster Markers (1 pack per class), Wall Tape (1 roll per class), *Good Fruits* (1 set per class), *Bad Fruits* (1 set per child), Masking Tape (1 roll per class), *Tree* Page (1 per child), *Fruit of the Spirit* Images (1 cut out set per child), Glue Sticks, Crayons

PREPARATION: Draw a large tree (about 3-feet tall) using the poster paper and markers, and then tape it to the wall. For each child in the class, cut out 1 set of the *Fruit of the Spirit* images.

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

BIBLE PASSAGE

Galatians 5:22-23, 25 (ICB)

BIG IDEA

The Holy Spirit gives us the Fruit of the Spirit.

FOCUS VERSE

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.” Galatians 5:22-23a (NASB)

LESSON MATERIALS

| Poster Paper | Markers | Wall Tape | *Good Fruits* | *Bad Fruits* | Masking Tape | *Tree Page* | *Fruit of the Spirit* Images | Glue Sticks | Crayons |

GREET — 15 MINUTES

Connection questions to ask as the children arrive:

- What is your favorite kind of fruit?
- If you could ask God any question, what would it be?

WORSHIP — 10 MINUTES

Make time to worship with your class. Learning how to worship is a foundational spiritual practice that we can teach even our youngest kids.

PRAY — 5 MINUTES

When you begin with prayer, you give children a chance to see that you rely on God. Be bold! Let them hear you ask God for help with teaching (and anything else you want to share). They will remember your example when they need help.

SAMPLE PRAYER: “God, thank You for Your love for every person. Give me the words to say to help Your kids learn to love You more. Let Your Holy Spirit speak through me in love. In Jesus’ name, Amen.”

REVIEW — 5 MINUTES

BACKGROUND: Say, “Today we have a special bonus lesson! This lesson will talk about how the Holy Spirit lives in us and makes us new people (2 Cor. 5:17) who grow to be like Jesus. In this week’s lesson, we will learn nine ways God’s Spirit helps us become more like Jesus. Who wants to hear more? I do too!”



THERE IS NO PUZZLE PIECE THIS WEEK BECAUSE THIS IS A STAND-ALONE LESSON.

TRANSITION: Say, "Let's play a game to get us ready to hear God's Word."

ENGAGE — 15 MINUTES

MATERIALS: Poster Paper (1 large posters per class) | Markers (1 pack per class) | Wall Tape (1 roll per class) | *Good Fruits* (1 set per class [printed double-sided]) | *Bad Fruits* (1 set per class [printed double-sided]) |



BEFORE CLASS, CREATE A LARGE TREE (ABOUT THREE TO FOUR- FEET TALL) ON POSTER PAPER, AND HANG IT ON THE WALL. THEN, PLACE THE FRUIT (GOOD AND BAD) ON THE TREE, SO THAT THE FRONT SIDES FACE THE KIDS. (ALL OF THE FRUIT SHOULD LOOK THE SAME ON THE OUTSIDE.)

Say, "Today, we are going to play a game called *Good Fruit, Bad Fruit*! Sometimes fruit looks good from the outside, but it is actually rotten (yucky or bad) on the inside. Have you ever taken a bite of fruit that looked great, but you quickly discovered it was yucky on the inside? In this game, we will work together to pick off all the bad fruit from the tree and only leave good fruit. Are you ready to play *Good Fruit, Bad Fruit*?"

GAME GOAL: To win the most points by removing the tree's bad fruit.

HOW TO PLAY:

1. Divide the class into two teams.
2. Instruct the teams to form two lines in front of the tree (on the wall).
3. Explain that some of the fruit on the tree is good fruit, but some are yucky (or rotten). Therefore, the teams need to remove the bad fruit.
4. One at a time, each team member will pull off one piece of fruit from the tree at random.
5. When the fruit has been plucked, the student will look on the back of their piece of fruit to see if they chose a good one or a bad one.
6. If the fruit is bad, then that person's team keeps the rotten piece of fruit and gets the point. However, if the child pulls off a good piece of fruit, they lose a point and return it to the tree.
7. Continue this process, alternating team members, until all eight of the bad fruit have been collected. The team with the most points at the end wins.
8. Play again as time allows.

TRANSITION: Say, "Did you like playing *Good Fruit, Bad Fruit*? I did too! Did you notice how all of the fruit looked the same, but some pieces were rotten (or yucky) while others were good? Well, today, we will be talking about a different kind of fruit that does not come from trees but comes from the Holy Spirit. Let's see what I mean."

LEARN — 15 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | *Good Fruits* (from ENGAGE section) | *Bad Fruits* (from ENGAGE section) | Masking Tape (1 roll per class) |

Say, “Has anyone ever heard of the Fruit of the Spirit? That sounds silly, doesn’t it? (When we talk about the Spirit, we are talking about the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of God who lives inside every Christian.) The Fruit of the Spirit are the good things the Holy Spirit gives us. These good things are given to us to make us like Jesus! Are you ready to find out the nine good things the Holy Spirit grows in us?” Read Galatians 5:22-23, 25 (ICB).

²² But the Spirit gives love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control. There is no law that says these things are wrong. ²⁵ We get our new life from the Spirit. So we should follow the Spirit.

Say, “Wow! I heard nine amazing things that the Holy Spirit gives us! (Reread verses 22 and 23.) Did you hear them too?”

Ask, “*What are the nine Fruit of the Spirit?* I heard them! They are love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. (Take a moment to talk through each Fruit to make sure the children understand the words. Truthforkids.com has a great list of “big Bible words” if you are looking for a helpful resource.) **The Holy Spirit gives us the Fruit of the Spirit**, and the Spirit grows good things in us. Did you know that the Holy Spirit is only good? This means that the Holy Spirit will NEVER help you do bad things like hate, lie, or hurt someone. The Spirit helps us live like Jesus. Aren’t you grateful that **the Holy Spirit gives us the Fruit of the Spirit**? I am too!”

MODEL IT: On the back of the bad fruit (from the ENGAGE game—*Good Fruit, Bad Fruit*), write some of the bad things we have inside us—anger, jealousy, dishonesty, etc. (Let the kids help you come up with these things.) Then, on the back of the good fruits, write the nine *Fruit of the Spirit*. Using tape, stick all the bad fruit to yourself and say, “When the Holy Spirit lives inside of us, He slowly picks off the bad things (or bad fruit) and grows the good things (or good fruit).” As you talk with the kids, pull off the rotten fruit, piece by piece, and put on the good fruit.



MODEL BAD FRUIT BEING PLUCKED OFF BY PICKING OFF THE BAD FRUIT AND DROPPING IT ON THE GROUND.

TRANSITION: Say, “**The Holy Spirit gives us the Fruit of the Spirit**. He is the only one who can give us good fruit and take off the bad fruit in our hearts. What good news!”

DISCUSS — 10 MINUTES

Say, “Let’s talk about our lesson to make sure we understand it.”

1. What does the Holy Spirit give us?

Response: **The Holy Spirit gives us the Fruit of the Spirit.**

2. Raise your hand if you can name at least one Fruit of the Spirit? What are some of them?

Response: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, Self-Control.

3. Can you think of some yucky fruit we want the Holy Spirit to take off of us?

Response: Answers will vary. (Refer to the words on the back of the bad fruits from above if the class needs help remembering.)

4. Which one of the Fruit of the Spirit are you most excited about the Holy Spirit giving you?

Response: Answers will vary. (Reread the nine Fruit of the Spirit if necessary.)

5. Why do we need the Holy Spirit's help?

Response: The Holy Spirit helps us become more like Jesus.

6. Who takes off the bad fruit in our hearts and gives us good fruit instead?

Response: The Holy Spirit living in us.

7. What do we learn about the Holy Spirit in this teaching?

Response: **The Holy Spirit gives us the Fruit of the Spirit**, the Spirit will never help us do bad things, the Holy Spirit makes us like Jesus, the Holy Spirit is our Helper, etc.

TRANSITION: Say, "Remember, **the Holy Spirit gives us the Fruit of the Spirit.**"

RESPOND — 15 MINUTES

MATERIALS: | *Tree* Page (1 per child) | *Fruit of the Spirit* Images (1 cut-out set per child) | Glue Sticks | Crayons |

Say, "Today's craft helps us remember that **the Holy Spirit gives us the Fruit of the Spirit**: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. These are the fruits that Jesus had and that the Holy Spirit gives us."

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Give each child a *Tree* page, the nine *Fruit of the Spirit* images, a glue stick, and crayons.
2. First, instruct the children to color the *Tree* page and the nine *Fruit of the Spirit* images.
3. Then, they will glue each good fruit of the Spirit to the *Tree* page. (Read the *Fruit of the Spirit* images to the kids while they are working.)



REMIND THE CLASS THAT THE HOLY SPIRIT ONLY GIVES HIS FRUIT (GOOD FRUIT).

MODIFICATION: As an alternative to printing out the "Fruit of the Spirit" images, you can also spread out extra craft materials you have (paper, tissue paper, sequins, stickers, feathers, pom-poms, etc.) and have the children create small pictures to represent each of the Holy Spirit's fruit. If you do this, make sure you ask the kids to tell you why they chose to make each fruit the way they did.

TRANSITION: Say, "Great job! Remember, **the Holy Spirit gives us the Fruit of the Spirit.**"

MEMORIZE — 5 MINUTES

Say, "Our verse for today will help us remember the Fruit of the Spirit. Let's take the next few moments to memorize each fruit."



LEADERS WILL NEED TO PRACTICE THE HAND MOTIONS BEFORE TEACHING THIS VERSE TO THE CHILDREN. YOU WILL WANT TO BE COMFORTABLE WITH THE VERSE AND ACTIONS.

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love (*make a heart with your hands*), **joy** (*point to your smiling face*), **peace** (*bring hands palm to palm*), **patience** (*interlock your fingers*), **kindness** (*hug yourself*), **goodness** (*two thumbs up*), **faithfulness** (*hand over your heart*), **gentleness** (*rub one hand with the other*), **self-control** (*hold two fists up in a defensive stance*).” **Galatians 5:22-23a (NASB)** (*hold out hands like a book*)

CHALLENGE: Since this is the only week you will be memorizing the verse, and because there are so many “fruit” to learn, spend extra time in this portion of the lesson.

REFLECT — 5 MINUTES

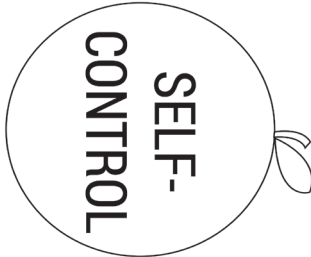
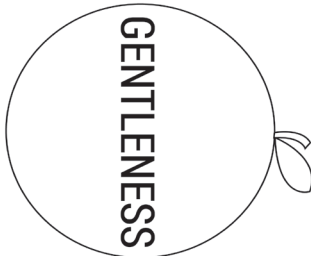
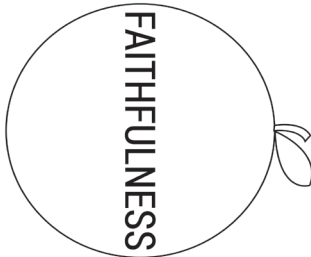
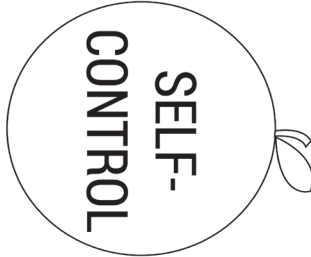
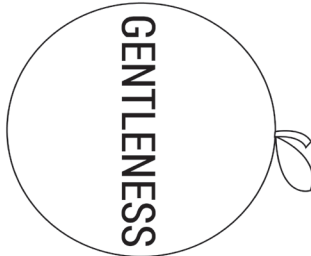
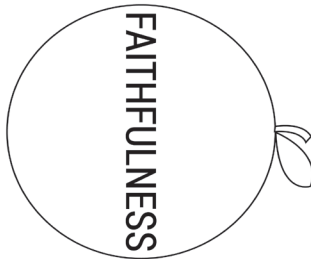
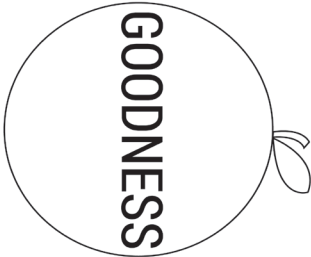
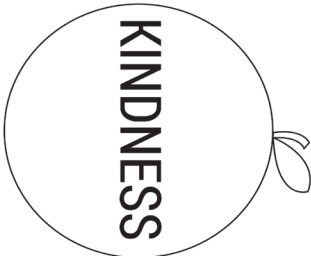
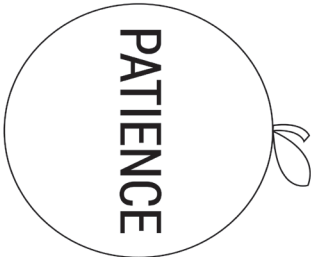
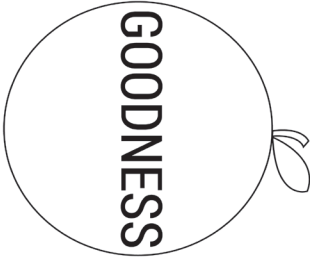
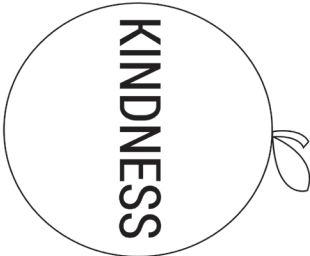
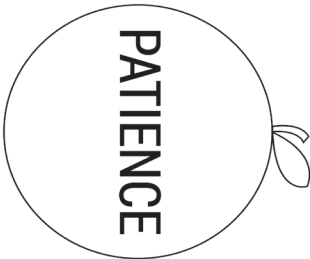
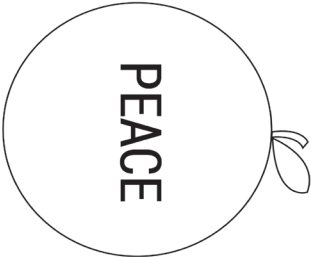
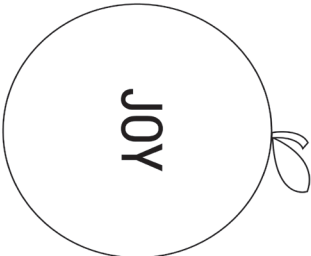
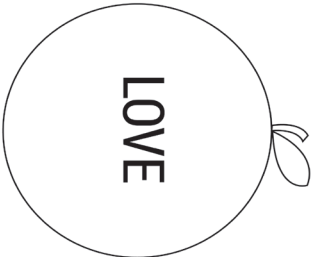
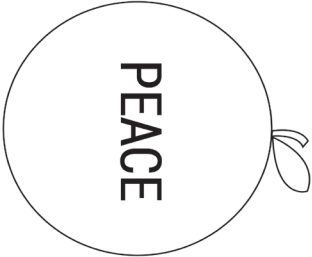
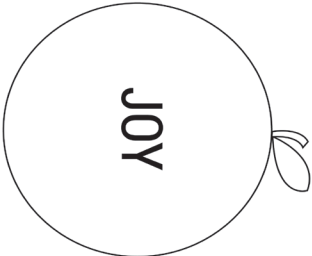
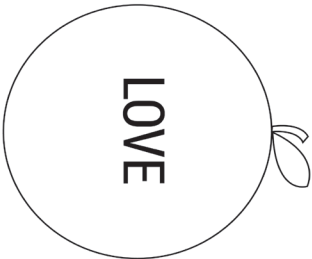
Say, **“The Holy Spirit gives us the Fruit of the Spirit.** When we start seeing love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control in our lives, we can know that the Holy Spirit is making us more like Jesus! Isn’t that exciting news?! That means God is working in us!”

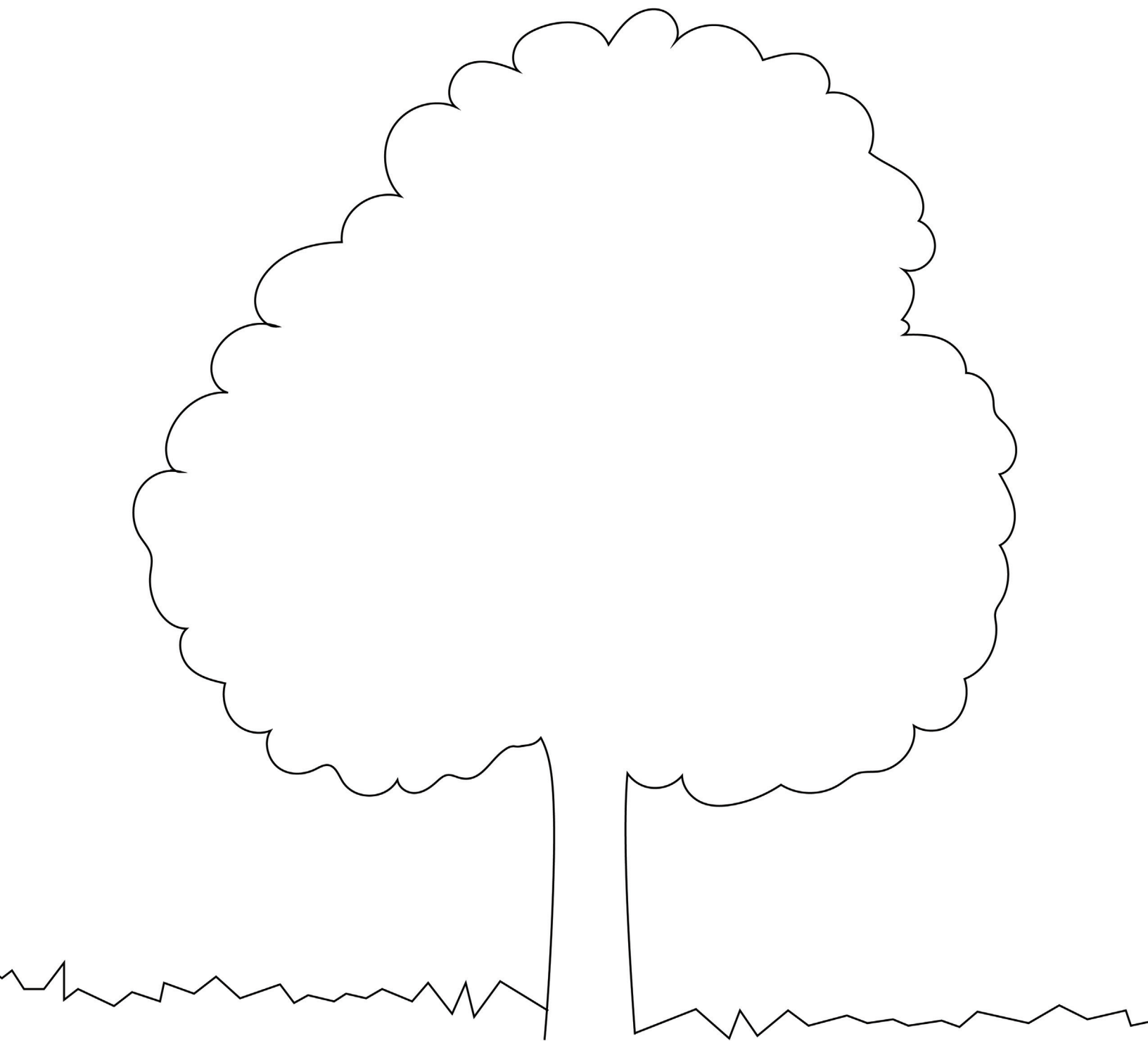
SAMPLE PRAYER: *“God, thank You for sending Jesus, Your Son. Thank you also for sending Your Spirit to help us become more like Your Son. The Holy Spirit is a wonderful gift! Thank You, Lord! Amen.”*

RELEASE — 5 MINUTES

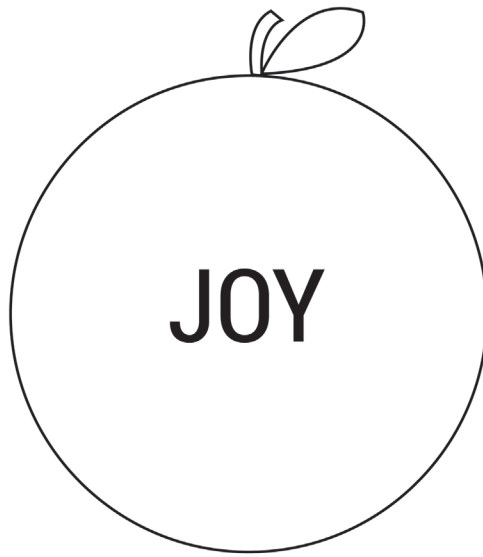
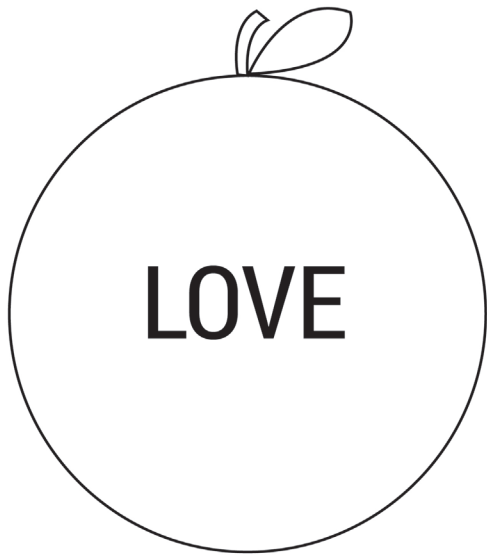
If you have extra time, let the kids choose what they want to do. They may surprise you with their responses. If no one suggests anything, replay *Good Fruit, Bad Fruit* or go back over the memory verse.

Fruit of the Spirit Images

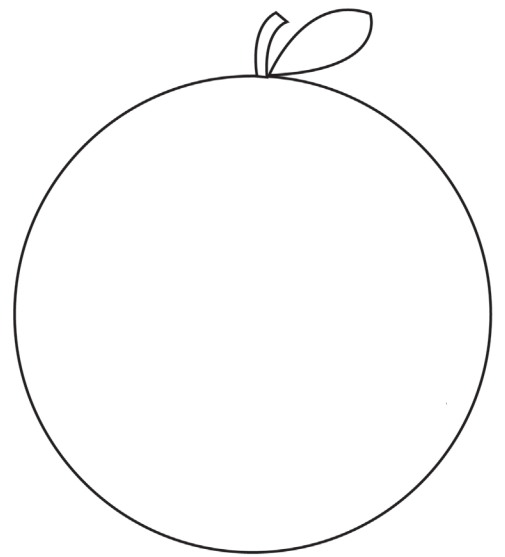
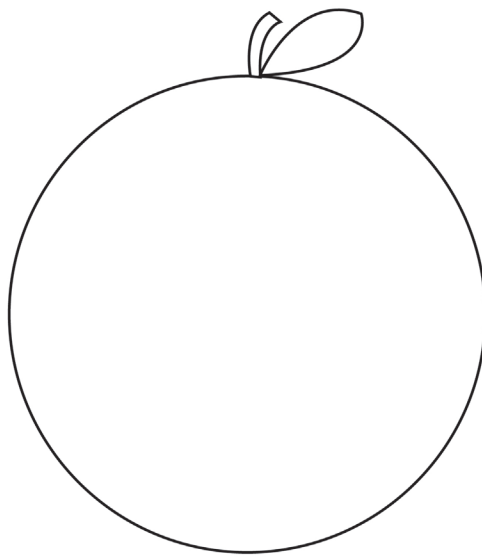
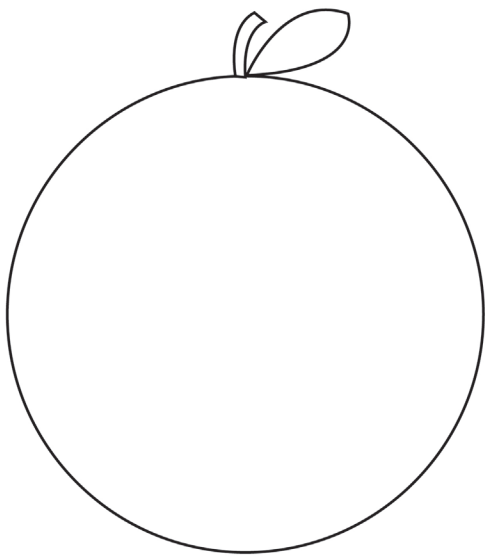
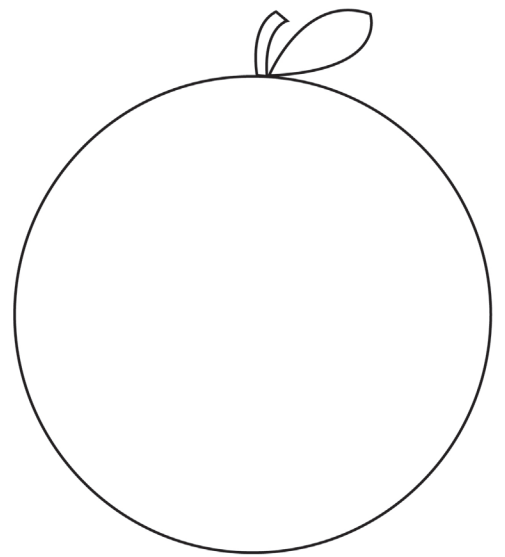
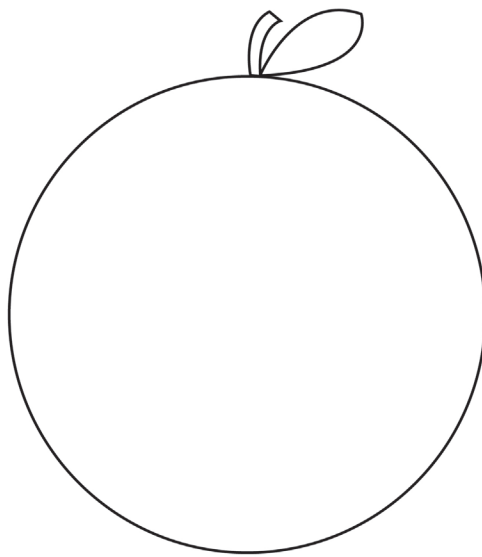
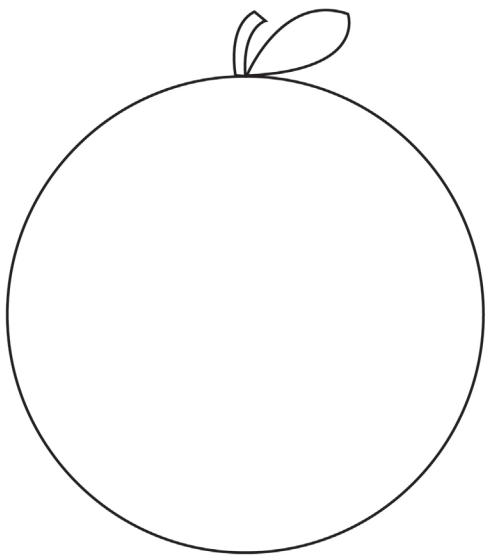
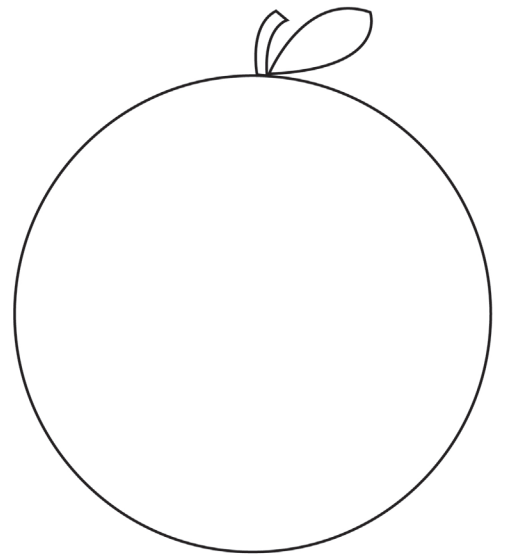
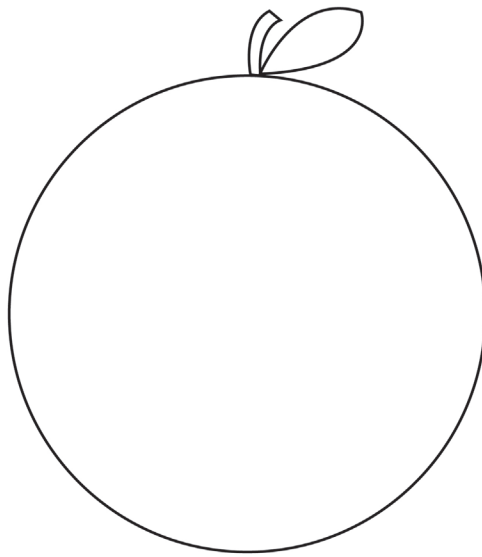
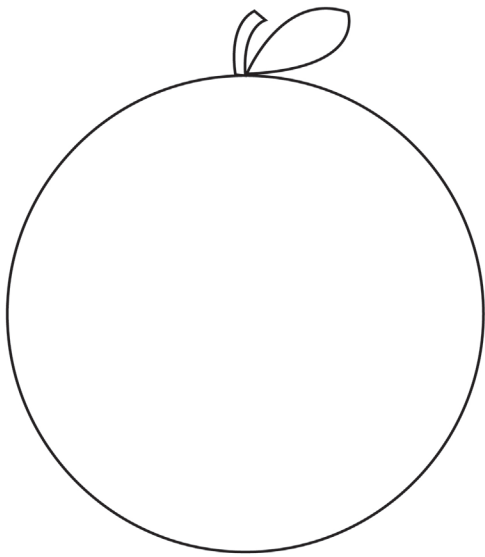




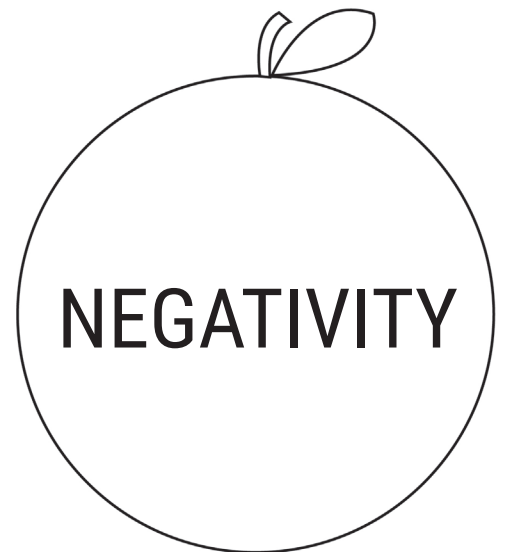
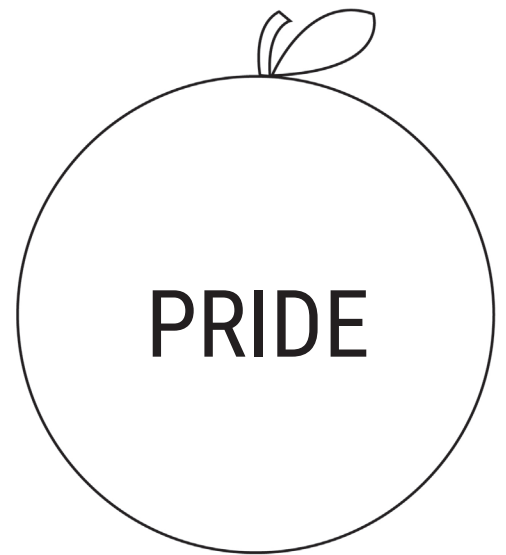
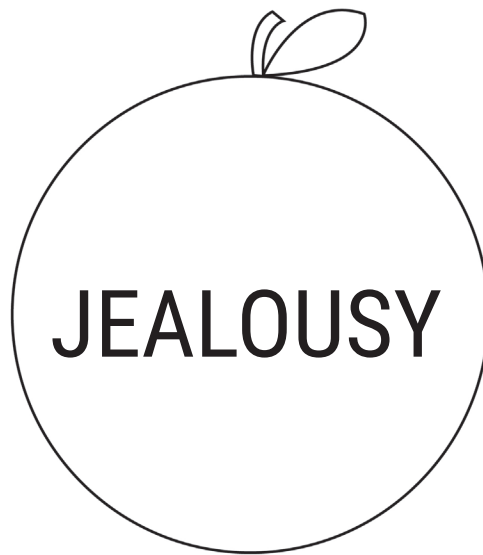
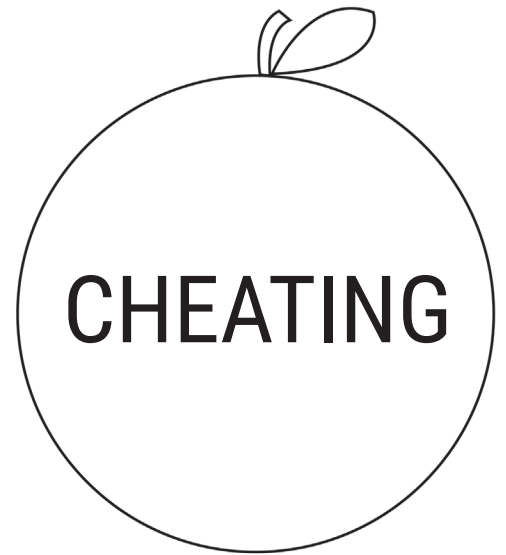
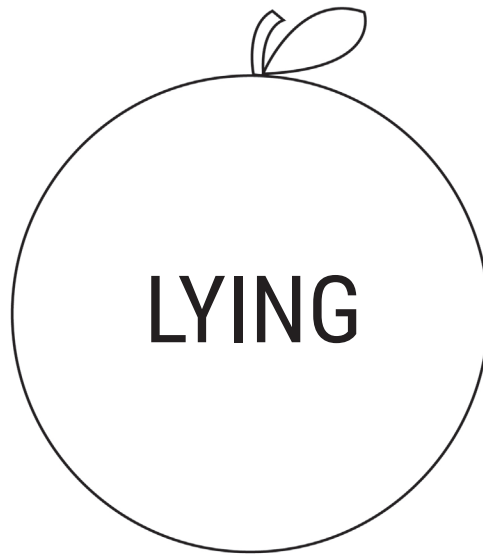
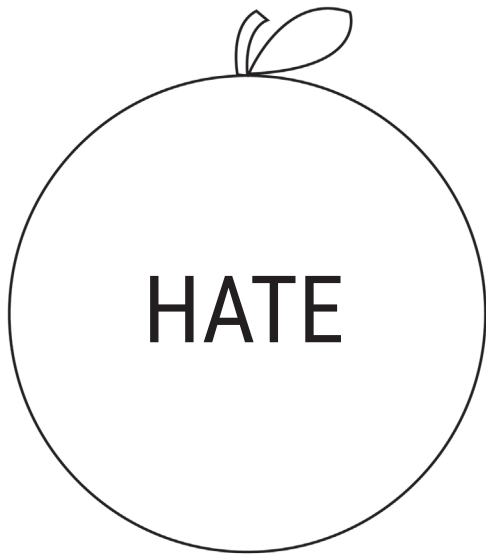
GOOD FRUITS- PAGE 1



GOOD FRUITS- PAGE 2



BAD FRUITS- PAGE 1



BAD FRUITS- PAGE 2

