

Age-Level Overview

	Open the Bible	Activate Faith
Lower Elementary		
<p>WORKSHOP FOCUS: We can show the fruit of the Spirit.</p> <p>FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT BOOKMARK: Kids design a bookmark based on one fruit of the Spirit that Paul named.</p>	<p>SPARK RESOURCES: Spark Story Bibles</p> <p>SUPPLIES: None</p>	<p>SPARK RESOURCES: None</p> <p>SUPPLIES: Board or chart paper, marker, printer, cardstock, Kid Pix® (or the paint/draw program available on the computer), hole punch (optional), yarn (optional)</p>
Upper Elementary		
<p>WORKSHOP FOCUS: We share the fruit of the Spirit with all.</p> <p>FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT CALENDAR: Kids work together to design pages for fruit of the Spirit calendars.</p>	<p>SPARK RESOURCES: Spark Bibles, Spark Bible Stickers</p> <p>SUPPLIES: None</p>	<p>SPARK RESOURCES: None</p> <p>SUPPLIES: Kid Pix® (or the paint/draw program available on the computer), color printer, cardstock</p>
All Kids		
<p>WORKSHOP FOCUS: We live in community.</p> <p>FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT POEM: Groups of kids write and illustrate poems for a fruit of the Spirit community anthology.</p>	<p>SPARK RESOURCES: Spark Story Bibles, Spark Bibles, Spark Bible Stickers</p> <p>SUPPLIES: None</p>	<p>SPARK RESOURCES: Spark Story Bibles, Spark Bibles</p> <p>SUPPLIES: Kid Pix® (or the paint/draw program available on the computer), printer, paper</p>



Visit www.sparksundayschool.org for more Spark content. Watch a short Lesson Prep Video that will prepare you and give you confidence to explore this Bible story with the kids you are leading. You will also find a downloadable Family Page for this rotation's story filled with ideas for families to use to explore this story and live out their faith at home.

Workshop Focus: We can show the fruit of the Spirit.

Keep these tips in mind as you welcome kids to the workshop and explore the story together.

- Each week, remember to welcome kids to the rotation. Keep in mind that for some kids, it may be the first time they are visiting your workshop!
- If kids have heard the story several times during previous weeks, read it again! Kids learn through repetition, and every workshop will explore the Bible story in a slightly different way.
- Remember that the Shepherds are there to support you as they accompany kids each week.
- Be sure to visit www.sparksondayschool.org to download the Family Page for this story. Make copies of it and ask Shepherds to distribute it during the Wrap Up.

Open the Bible (10 minutes)

Fruit of the Spirit Storytelling

Greet kids as they enter and tell them where you will gather. Welcome kids to your workshop. **What does *opposite* mean?** Allow time for kids to respond. **What is the opposite of happy? What is the opposite of good? What is the opposite of noisy? In our story today, we will hear some opposites. Let's open our Spark Story Bibles to Fruit of the Spirit on page 550.**

The people in Galatia were always arguing. They really needed some help. Paul wrote a letter to them with some good advice. He told them to show love, joy, peace, and patience to each other. He told them to be kind, generous, and faithful. They knew that Paul was right. They knew that arguing and fighting was not the way to live. Follow along while I read this story. When we get to page 553, look and listen for opposites. Help kids recognize the opposites as you read.

What did the Galatians do? Look at the opposites. They said "yes" to peace and "no" to fighting. What other opposites do you see?

Spark Resources
Spark Story Bibles

Supplies
None

Activate Faith (25 minutes)

Fruit of the Spirit Bookmark

Set Up: Make sure the computers are on with Kid Pix® (or the paint/draw program available on the computer) loaded and the printers connected. Write *love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generous, faithful, gentleness, and self-control* on the board or chart paper where all kids can see the list.

Activity Instructions

In Paul's letter to the Galatians, he told them he was happy that they believed in Jesus. But he told them fighting with each other was not the way Jesus would want them to live. He suggested that they live with the fruit of the Spirit in mind. Can you remember what he told them to show each other? Allow time for kids to respond. **He told them to show love, joy, peace, and patience and to be kind, generous, faithful, and gentle to each other. He told them to show self-control. Those words are the fruit of the Spirit. Jesus wants us to live by the fruit of the Spirit, too.**

Today, you will design a bookmark with one fruit of the Spirit written on it. The words are listed on the board/chart paper. Choose one of the words to be the main part of your bookmark. Make a border, then draw or stamp some designs on it. If you are sharing computers, be sure to give the other kids enough time to make their bookmark. You might even want to help each other with ideas and suggestions. When you are finished, you will print your bookmark on sturdy cardstock so you can use it over and over again.

Invite Shepherds to join you in going around to the computers to offer encouragement and assistance where needed. Be sure all kids at computers get a chance to participate fully.

If kids have time, they can each design two bookmarks—one to keep and one to give to a person who makes congregational visits so the bookmarks can be shared with others.

Print the bookmarks on the cardstock and have kids cut them out. If you have time, have them punch a hole at the end of the bookmark and make a yarn tassel.

These are great bookmarks. I think we should show each other what we have designed. Maybe you would like to tell us why you chose the word you did.

Be sensitive to the fact that some kids may feel uncomfortable showing their bookmarks.

Spark Resources

None

Supplies

Board or chart paper

Marker

Printer

Cardstock, 1 sheet per kid
(plus a few extras)

Kid Pix® (or the paint/draw
program available on the
computer)

Hole punch (optional)

Yarn (optional)

Send (5 minutes)

Wrap Up

Remind the Shepherds to distribute the Family Page for this story if the kids haven't already received it, and come together for Wrap Up.

In what ways can we show the fruit of the Spirit? What can you do? You can show love, joy, peace, and patience. It is not always easy to do those things, but with the help of the Holy Spirit, we can. Thank kids for their participation and invite them to return.

Spark Resources

Family Pages



Supplies

Bookmarks made in Activate Faith

Prayer Time

Ask kids to look at their bookmark while you pray.

**Dear God,
Thank you for always being with us.
Help all of us follow the words we have written
And the designs we have made.
We can live by the fruit of your Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

Workshop Focus: We share the fruit of the Spirit with all.

Keep these tips in mind as you welcome kids to the workshop and explore the story together.

- Each week, remember to welcome kids to the rotation. Keep in mind that for some kids, it may be the first time they are visiting your workshop!
- If kids have heard the story several times during previous weeks, read it again! Kids learn through repetition, and every workshop will explore the Bible story in a slightly different way.
- Remember that the Shepherds are there to support you as they accompany kids each week.
- Be sure to visit www.sparksundayschool.org to download the Family Page for this story. Make copies of it and ask Shepherds to distribute it during the Wrap Up.

Open the Bible (10 minutes)

Fruit of the Spirit Storytelling

Greet kids and show them where to sit. **What are some things you like to share?** Allow time for kids to respond. **Is it difficult to share some things? What are some things that are really easy to share? How does it make you feel when you have shared things with someone? How does it feel to be generous and to give to others or to do something for others?**

In today's story, Paul is writing to the people who live in Galatia. Even though they believed in Jesus, they were not living like Jesus would want them to live. Paul told them to listen to and follow God's Holy Spirit. Let's open our Spark Bibles to Galatians 5:16-26 on page 1293 to see how Paul told them to live.

Paul told them to be guided by the Spirit and to live by the fruit of the Spirit. Let's try to name them. If this is an early week, kids may only name a few. As weeks progress, help kids to name all nine. **I wonder why Paul ended with his advice in verse 26.** Invite kids to place an I Wonder sticker by that verse while you talk about the difficulty of living fully by the fruit of the Spirit. **Maybe Paul knew that people might think they were better at one fruit of the Spirit than the other people or that they would decide one fruit of the Spirit was the most important. But God wants us to share good fruit with everyone.**

Spark Resources
Spark Bibles
Spark Bible Stickers

Supplies
None

Activate Faith (25 minutes)

Fruit of the Spirit Calendar

Set Up:

- Determine the number of calendars you create based on the number of kids, the number of available computers, and the number of weeks kids who will visit the computer lab.
- Determine the recipient of the compiled calendars (gift for congregational visitations, calendar for church office or children's ministry supply area, thank-you gift for people who speak for large group openings).
- Make a plan for compiling and delivering calendars.
- Prepare written assignments for each computer listing one fruit of the Spirit, the assigned month and year, the number of days in that month, and the day of the first day of the month. (Example pictured below: Patience, April 2011, 30 days beginning on Friday).
- Make a sample calendar page like the one below.
- Make sure the computers are on with Kid Pix® (or the paint/draw program available on the computer) loaded and the printers connected.
- You may want to insert the tables for each calendar page into the document before kids arrive.

Spark Resources

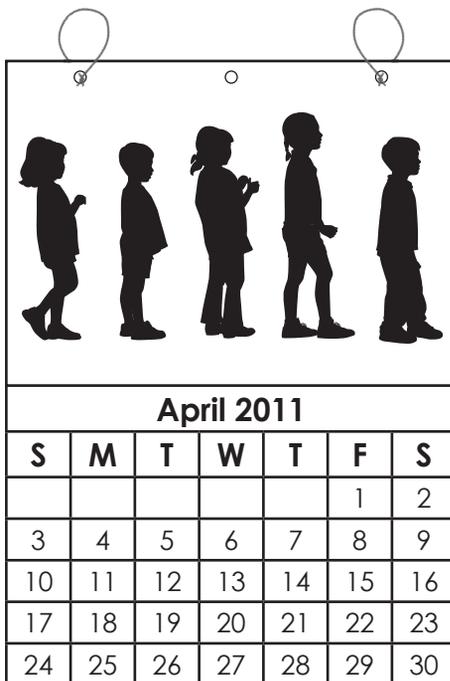
None

Supplies

Kid Pix® (or the paint/draw program available on the computer)

Color printer

Cardstock, 1 sheet per 2-3 kids (plus a few extras)



Activity Instructions

There are many ways we can share the fruit of the Spirit. When we make something for someone else, we show generosity and love. We are sharing the Spirit. Sometimes, we need patience and self-control while we work together. This gift will take time.

Tell kids your plan for making and compiling calendar pages throughout this rotation and the person or people who will receive the finished calendars. Assign kids to teams of 2-3 at each computer.

At your computer, you will see an assignment showing the month and year for your calendar page and the fruit of the Spirit your month will illustrate. Show the sample you made, pointing out the fruit of the Spirit, the month and year, the number of days in the month, and the day on which the month begins as you describe how the kids will work today.

1. **Use Kid Pix®** (or the paint/draw program available on the computer) **to illustrate the fruit of the Spirit assigned to you.**
2. **Place the month and year at the bottom of your picture.** (*example: April 2011*)
3. **On the bottom half of the screen, insert a table that has seven columns and 6 rows.**
4. **Write the days of the week across the first row.**
5. **Write "1" in the 2nd row on the day of the week shown in your assignment and continue entering the number of the days in your month** (28-31 days).
6. **When you finish, we will print your page and put it together with other pages.**
7. Remind kids about the people with whom you are sharing the calendars.
8. Invite Shepherds to join you in going around to the computers to offer encouragement and assistance where needed. Be sure all kids at computers get a chance to participate fully.
9. When kids finish their months, put the pages in calendar order.

Thank kids for being a part of a bigger project that will be shared with others. If there is time, show the pages created today. Tell kids when and where they will be able to see the finished calendars before you give them away.

Send (5 minutes)

Wrap Up

Remind the Shepherds to distribute the Family Page for this story if the kids haven't already received it, and come together for Wrap Up.

You added your work to a project that is bigger than each person. That's a great way to share the good fruit of God's Holy Spirit. You showed love and generosity in your work and so much more in all the pages. Thank kids for coming and tell them you are eager to lead them another time. **Continue to share the fruit of the Spirit this week!**

Spark Resources

Family Pages



Supplies

None

Prayer Time

**Dear Holy Spirit,
Thank you for helping us find ways to work together
And to share with people we may not even know.
Help us live by your Spirit every day.
In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen.**

Workshop Focus: We live in community.

Keep these tips in mind as you welcome kids to the workshop and explore the story together.

- Each week, remember to welcome kids to the rotation. Keep in mind that for some kids, it may be the first time they are visiting your workshop!
- If kids have heard the story several times during previous weeks, read it again! Kids learn through repetition, and every workshop will explore the Bible story in a slightly different way.
- Remember that the Shepherds are there to support you as they accompany kids each week.
- Be sure to visit www.sparksondayschool.org to download the Family Page for this story. Make copies of it and ask Shepherds to distribute it during the Wrap Up.

Open the Bible (10 minutes)

Fruit of the Spirit Storytelling

Greet kids and show them where to sit. **It is good to see you today.** Spend a few minutes describing the area where your church is located—urban, rural, suburban. **No matter where we live, we are part of a community. Some communities are small and some are large. What makes a good community?** Allow time for kids to respond. **How can we make our community better?**

Let's open to Fruit of the Spirit on page 550 in our Spark Story Bibles and to Galatians 5:16-26 on page 1293 in our Spark Bibles. Listen for the advice about community Paul gave to his friends in churches in Galatia. Remind kids with Spark Bibles to use their Spark Bible Stickers. Encourage kids with Spark Story Bibles to share the pictures.

What was bothering Paul about his friends in Galatia? Tell kids Paul's letter was written because the Galatians were fighting and arguing. **What things are better in a community when people live by the Spirit—showing love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control?** Allow time for kids to respond, helping kids think about the benefits of following the Spirit.

Spark Resources
Spark Story Bibles
Spark Bibles
Spark Bible Stickers

Supplies
None

Activate Faith (25 minutes)

Fruit of the Spirit Poem

Set Up: Make sure the computers are on with Kid Pix® (or the paint/draw program available on the computer) loaded and the printers connected. Be sure older and younger kids share a computer.

Activity Instructions

Paul was happy the Galatians believed in Jesus, but he wasn't happy they were arguing. He wrote a letter to tell them about a better way to live. Paul gave them some great advice! He told them to live with the fruit of the Spirit in mind. That meant not being jealous, conceited, angry, or greedy. Do you remember how God's Holy Spirit said to live? Allow time to respond.

Find out if kids know what an anthology is. (*a collection of poems, essays, artwork*)

Paul's letter was published in the Bible. During this rotation, all the computer classes will publish a fruit of the Spirit community anthology of illustrated poems. Tell kids where they will be able to see the entire anthology after the rotation is complete.

Your computers are set up with Kid Pix® (or the paint/draw program available on the computer). **Here's how we'll do this:**

- **Head to the computers with a group of three or four kids of different ages.**
- **Look through your Bibles, talk with each other, and decide what your poem will be about.**
- **Write the poem together. It doesn't need to be long and it doesn't have to rhyme. It just has to be about the topic you decide.**
- **Start illustrating.**
- **Be sure everyone gets a chance to think, write, and draw.**
- **Print your poem.**
- **Finished early? Write another poem for our anthology.**

Before you start, let's try a few together. Think about Paul's advice. What could our first line be? Allow time for kids to respond. Have the kids throw out some ideas for a first line. Then ask for second and third lines. Use these examples if kids need prompting:

Jesus wants
Not fighting and rudeness
But gentleness and kindness

OR

Spark Resources

Spark Story Bibles
Spark Bibles

Supplies

Kid Pix® (or the paint/draw program available on the computer)
Printer
Paper

Paul told the Galatians
To correct their relations,
Show love, show peace,
Let fighting cease.

OR

The Holy Spirit wants us to live,
To love and share and kindly give.

Invite Shepherds to join you in going around to the computers to offer encouragement and assistance where needed. Be sure all kids at computers have a chance to participate fully.

When groups finish working, gather together with the printed anthology pages. Ask someone from each group to read their poem. As you collect the poems, thank kids for the important work they did for your community. Remind kids when and where they'll see the finished anthology.

Send (5 minutes)

Wrap Up

Remind the Shepherds to distribute the Family Page for this story if the kids haven't already received it, and come together for Wrap Up.

When we live by the Spirit and treat each other with love, joy, peace, and patience, our families and communities are much better places in which to live. Every time you are here, you're an important part of our Computer Lab community. Thank you for coming. Live by the Spirit this week and always!

Spark Resources
Family Pages



Supplies
None

Prayer Time

**Loving God,
Thank you for sending us the Holy Spirit.
Help us live like you want us to live.
Help us treat each other with love, joy, peace, and patience.
Help us to be kind, gentle, and generous.
In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen.**

