

## Age-Level Overview

	Open the Bible	Activate Faith
<b>Lower Elementary</b>		
<b>WORKSHOP FOCUS:</b> We can show the fruit of the Spirit.	<b>SPARK RESOURCES:</b> Spark Story Bibles	<b>SPARK RESOURCES:</b> Spark Story Bibles
<b>FINDING FRUIT:</b> Kids make a mural to illustrate the fruit of the Spirit.	<b>SUPPLIES:</b> None	<b>SUPPLIES:</b> Device with internet access, large screen, printer, large piece of mural paper, glue sticks, children's scissors, coloring supplies
<b>Upper Elementary</b>		
<b>WORKSHOP FOCUS:</b> We share the fruit of the Spirit with all.	<b>SPARK RESOURCES:</b> Spark Bibles, Spark Bible Stickers	<b>SPARK RESOURCES:</b> None
<b>CAN YOU HAIKU?:</b> Kids create original poems about the fruit of the Spirit.	<b>SUPPLIES:</b> None	<b>SUPPLIES:</b> Devices with notepad application, printer paper, printer
<b>All Kids</b>		
<b>WORKSHOP FOCUS:</b> We live in community.	<b>SPARK RESOURCES:</b> Spark Story Bibles, Spark Bibles, Spark Bible Stickers	<b>SPARK RESOURCES:</b> Spark Story Bibles, Spark Bibles, Spark Bible Stickers
<b>FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT POEM:</b> Kids write poems to help them remember the fruit of the Spirit.	<b>SUPPLIES:</b> None	<b>SUPPLIES:</b> Devices with a notepad application, drawing application (one for every group of 2), device with slideshow application, large screen



Looking for additional Spark content to further engage kids? Visit [www.wearesparkhouse.org](http://www.wearesparkhouse.org) to learn more about these options for purchase.

- The Director CD-Rom contains Activity Pages, Coloring Pages, Family Pages, Large Group Openings, and two additional in-class activities for each lesson.
- A Sparkhouse Digital annual subscription gives you access to all content contained in the Director CD-Rom and the Spark Leader Guides, plus administrative tools and other extras.



**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.

## 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)

## Finding Fruit

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**Set Up:** Find a kid-safe search engine you feel comfortable accessing in class. Connect your device to the printer and screen.

### Activity Instructions

1. **In today's Bible story, we learned about something called the fruit of the Spirit. These aren't actually fruit, but they're characteristics that show others how God is working in our lives. Does anyone remember what they were?** Listen to kids' responses. **They were love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generous, gentle, and self-control. That's a lot of words!**
2. **To help us figure out what it means to focus on the fruit of the Spirit, we're going to make a mural. I want you all to gather around the screen. We're going to look for pictures of what we think it means to be loving, or kind, or joyful, and then we're going to print them, cut them out, and glue them to a big piece of mural paper!** If you don't have access to a printer, look up images and have kids draw their own ideas on paper.
3. Gather the kids around the screen. **The first "fruit" is love. What are ways you see love? Your grandma? Dog? A note your parent leaves in your lunch box?** Take a couple suggestions and look them up on your image search. When you find a good photo, print it off, and have a Shepherd collect the printed photos. Do this for every fruit of the Spirit.
4. **Now that we have all of our examples printed out, it's time to cut them out and glue them to our mural.** Pass out scissors and printed pictures and have kids cut them out. Hand out the glue sticks as kids approach the mural paper. When the mural is complete, display it somewhere in your room.
5. **You all did an awesome job making our mural! Now, if we forget what it looks like to show God's love to others, we can look up at the mural and be reminded that the fruits of the Spirit aren't just a bunch of words but real ways to show people that God's Spirit is living in us.**

### Spark Resources

Spark Story Bibles

### Supplies

Device with internet access  
Large screen  
Printer  
Large piece of mural paper  
Glue sticks  
Children's scissors  
Coloring supplies

# Send (5 minutes)

## Wrap Up

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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?** Listen to kids' responses. **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

None

## Prayer Time

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**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.

## Open the Bible (10 minutes)

### Fruit of the Spirit Storytelling

Greet kids and show them where to sit. **Is it difficult to share some things? What are some things that are really easy to share?** Allow time for kids to respond. **How do 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)

## Can You Haiku?

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**Set Up:** Download a notepad application to the devices and connect devices to the printer.

### Spark Resources

None

### Activity Instructions

### Supplies

Devices with notepad application  
Printer paper  
Printer

1. **Today we learned about the fruit of the Spirit. Who can tell me what the Bible said the fruit of the Spirit are?** (*love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control*) **Even though this part of the Bible was written for the Galatians, do you think we should still try to show the fruit of the Spirit today?** (Yes)
2. **When we think about the fruit of the Spirit, we don't always think about what those words really mean. So, we're going to think about what each word means and then you're going to pick one to write a poem about. What do you think it means to show love?** Go through the list and have children volunteer ideas about what they think it means to show that attribute.
3. **Now that we have some ideas already in our minds, I want you to start thinking about which fruit of the Spirit you'd like to write about. However, I want you to write a special type of poem. It's called a haiku. These poems are only three lines long. The first and last lines have five syllables, while the middle line has seven. This means you have to be careful which words you choose.**
4. Have Shepherds pass out devices. **You're going to write your poems on the notepad app, so that when you're done, we can print them off and share them with each other and the church.** Let the kids work. As they finish, print off their poems if possible. If you don't have a printer, let students read from their devices. Have them volunteer to share with each other.
5. **Paul wrote about the fruit of the Spirit in his letter to the Galatians, but it is not just Galatians who should live these out. When we show the world how God is at work in us, we help other people see how much God loves them too!**

# Send (5 minutes)

## Wrap Up

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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 wrote such wonderful poems. I hope you'll try to write more poems like this to help you remember the fruits of the Spirit.** 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

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**Dear Holy Spirit,**

**Thank you for helping us find ways to talk about your work in us**

**And to share it 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.

## 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

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**Set Up:** Download a notepad and drawing application onto every device. Make sure there is a way to get poems and drawings from the kids devices onto yours, so you can add it to a slideshow.

### Activity Instructions

1. **Today we learned about the fruit of the Spirit. Paul, a follower of Jesus, wrote about them in a letter to a group of people called Galatians. Who can tell me what the fruits of the Spirit are?** (*love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control*) **Even though this part of the Bible was written for the Galatians, do you think we should still show the fruits of the Spirit today?** (*Yes*)
2. **When we think about the fruit of the Spirit as just words, we miss out on how important it is to share them with others. So we're going to think about what each word means, and then you're going to pick one to write a poem about. What do you think it means to show love? How are you shown love?**  
Go through the list and have children volunteer ideas about what they think it means to show that attribute.
3. **Now that we have some ideas already in our minds, we're going to split you into groups, and each group is going to write about a different fruit of the Spirit.** Partner older and younger kids together. **I want older kids to write a poem about a fruit and younger kids to draw a picture of that fruit. There is a drawing and a notepad app on your device, so you might have to practice sharing—and that's a fruit of the Spirit!**
4. Have Shepherds pass out devices. Let the kids work. As they finish, help them send their poems and pictures to you so you can create a slideshow. Consider sharing this slideshow with the church.

### Spark Resources

Spark Story Bibles  
Spark Bibles  
Spark Bible Stickers

### Supplies

Devices with a notepad application, drawing application (one for every group of 2)  
Device with slideshow application  
Large screen

# Send (5 minutes)

## Wrap Up

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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 Digital Media and Technology community. Thank you for coming. Live by the Spirit this week and always!**

### Spark Resources

Family Pages



### Supplies

None

## Prayer Time

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**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.**