

Age-Level Overview

	Open the Bible	Activate Faith
Lower Elementary	<p>SPARK RESOURCES: Spark Story Bibles</p> <p>SUPPLIES: Bowl with fruit and non-food items (toys, toothbrushes, crayons)</p>	<p>SPARK RESOURCES: None</p> <p>SUPPLIES: <i>Winnie the Pooh</i> OR <i>The Tale of Despereaux</i>, video source and large screen, apron, assortment of kitchen utensils (spoons, mixing bowls, spices, chef's hat, can opener, etc.), snack (optional)</p>
Upper Elementary	<p>SPARK RESOURCES: Spark Bibles, Spark Bible Stickers</p> <p>SUPPLIES: Healthy plant, sickly plant, cardboard, markers, chenille craft stems</p>	<p>SPARK RESOURCES: None</p> <p>SUPPLIES: <i>The Santa Clause 3: The Escape Clause</i> OR <i>High School Musical 2</i>, video source and large screen, snack (optional)</p>
All Kids	<p>SPARK RESOURCES: Spark Story Bibles, Spark Bibles, Spark Bible Stickers</p> <p>SUPPLIES: Coat, hat, assorted small items in the coat's pockets</p>	<p>SPARK RESOURCES: None</p> <p>SUPPLIES: <i>Hilda</i> (TV Series) OR <i>Tangled</i>, video source and large screen, pitcher of water, empty glasses, 9" x 13" (23 cm x 33 cm) cake pan, snack (optional)</p>



Looking for additional Spark content to further engage kids? Visit 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: The Spirit's fruit helps us live happy, healthy lives.

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

Set Up: Fill the bowl with fruit and the non-food items.

Activity Instructions

Invite kids to be seated. **Welcome to Video! Today, we're going to talk about . . . fruit!**

Show the bowl with fruit and other things. Ask kids to identify the food and non-food items. **What would happen if you ate one of these toys?** Wait while kids respond. **At the very least, you wouldn't get the vitamins you need to grow. And you might even get sick. Either way, it probably wouldn't taste too great!**

Fruit is good for us. It gives us vitamins and other things we need to be healthy and to grow.

In our Bible story today, you will hear how God wants us to treat our friends. A man named Paul was sad that his friends were fighting. He told them that their actions weren't healthy. It was like they were trying to eat crayons or dirt rather than yummy, good food.

Spark Resources

Spark Story Bibles

Supplies

Bowl

Fruit

Assortment of small toys,
toothbrushes, crayons

How do you like your friends to treat you? How do you feel when they're nice to you?

Let's listen to this story about being good friends. Find Fruit of the Spirit on page 550 in your Spark Story Bibles. Show the pictures as you read.

Paul said that the fruit of God's Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Showing our friends God's love is like giving them something good and yummy to eat!

Activate Faith (25 minutes)

Enjoy the Best, Leave the Rest

Set Up: Prior to the lesson, preview and select the video clip you will use. Set up the video source and large screen so everyone in the room will be able to see it. If desired, prepare a snack for kids to enjoy while they watch the video—something fruit-related, perhaps! *Before serving any food, always check with caregivers for kids who have food allergies. Provide an alternative if necessary.*

Video Option 1: Winnie the Pooh (2011, animated, G)

Start cue: (36:38) "Oh? Pooh?"

End cue: (53:24) End credits.

Scene set-up: Winnie the Pooh finds himself in a bit of a pickle, and it is up to his friends to rescue him.

Activity Instructions for Winnie the Pooh

Show the apron and cooking utensils. **Do any of you like to help in the kitchen?**

Can you tell me what any of these utensils might be used for? Invite kids to respond.

If you were cooking a meal for a friend, you'd work hard to make it taste great, wouldn't you? You would use the best ingredients and only the freshest fruit and vegetables.

In our Bible story today, Paul encourages his friends to give each other the best: their love, patience, faithfulness, and every other fruit of the Spirit.

We're going to watch a movie now about giving your best. You'll see a chef who wants to cook for his friends. Watch as he chooses only the best ingredients to make his recipe great!

Brief kids with the scene before showing *Winnie the Pooh*.

Spark Resources

None

Supplies

Option 1: *Winnie the Pooh*
Video source and large screen
Apron
Assortment of kitchen utensils (spoons, mixing bowls, spices, chef's hat, can opener, etc.)
Snack (optional)

Option 2: *The Tale of Despereaux*
Video source and large screen
Apron
Assortment of kitchen utensils (spoons, mixing bowls, spices, chef's hat, can opener, etc.)
Snack (optional)

After watching, ask these questions:

When Winnie the Pooh got stuck in the bottom of the hole, who tried to help him out? (*all of his friends*) **Eventually, they all ended up in the hole too. Did they let that get them down?** (*No.*) **How did Winnie the Pooh get them out?** (*He made a letter ladder.*) **How did Christopher Robin show Winnie the Pooh he cared about him?** (*Left him with a giant pot of honey.*)

What fruits of the Spirit do you think the characters showed in the video? How do you think we can also show those fruits? Discuss with the children.

Video Option 2: *The Tale of Despereaux* (2008, animated, G)

Start cue: (0:00) The beginning of the movie.

End cue: (11:10) The queen passes out into her bowl of soup.

Scene set-up: Every year, the citizens of Dor gather to celebrate soup! The king's chef puts lots of care into choosing only the best of ingredients for his new recipes. This year, Roscuro the Rat and his human friend join the celebration.

Activity Instructions for *The Tale of Despereaux*

Show the apron and cooking utensils. **Do any of you like to help in the kitchen?**

Can you tell me what any of these utensils might be used for? Invite kids to respond.

If you were cooking a meal for a friend, you'd work hard to make it taste great, wouldn't you! You would use the best ingredients and only the freshest fruit and vegetables.

In our Bible story today, Paul encourages his friends to give each other the best: their love, patience, faithfulness, and every other fruit of the Spirit.

We're going to watch a movie now about giving your best. You'll see a chef who wants to cook for his friends. Watch as he chooses only the best ingredients to make his recipe great!

Brief kids with the scene before showing *The Tale of Despereaux*.

After watching, ask these questions:

What did the chef and his helpers do to prepare the soup? How did they make sure it was the best soup ever? (*They all worked together and chose only the very best ingredients.*) **If you could make a meal for all your favorite friends, what would you cook for them?** Listen to kids' responses.

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.

The fruit of the Spirit helps us to live in peace. Putting others first is a great way to live together! Giving our best to our friends makes everyone happy!

Spark Resources

Family Pages



Supplies

None

Prayer Time

Invite kids to form a circle and join hands. Teach them the repeating line, "Feed us, teach us, help us grow!" and ask them to say it after every petition.

Help us all your love to share,

Feed us, teach us, help us grow!

Every way and everywhere.

Feed us, teach us, help us grow!

Help us bear your fruit each day,

Feed us, teach us, help us grow!

Everywhere in every way.

Feed us, teach us, help us grow!

Amen!

Workshop Focus: The fruit of the Spirit nourishes our friendships . . . and the world!

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

Set Up: Use the cardboard, markers, and chenille craft stems to make nine fruit of the Spirit ornaments. Write one of the following words on each ornament: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Hand out ornaments to nine volunteers as they arrive.

Activity Instructions

Invite kids to be seated. **Welcome to Video! Today, we're going to talk about . . . fruit!**

What do you know about fruit? Where does it grow? Which fruits are your favorites? Invite kids to respond. Show the two plants. **Which of these do you think will bear better fruit?**

In our story today, Paul's friends were fighting all the time. Their selfishness was hurting their friendships.

Paul told them to stop being like unhealthy plants that bear bad fruit. He encouraged them to bear good fruit. Let's listen to our reading to find out what that means.

Spark Resources

Spark Bibles
Spark Bible Stickers

Supplies

Healthy, bushy plant
Unhealthy, sickly plant (or just a barren stick in a flower pot)
Scrap cardboard
Markers
Chenille craft stems

Ask kids to listen *without* following as you read aloud Galatians 5:16-26. As you read each fruit of the Spirit, invite the volunteer with that ornament to hang it on the healthy plant.

Look at our beautiful, fruitful plant! How beautiful our lives are when we share the fruit of the Spirit with our neighbors!

Invite kids to open their Spark Bibles to Galatians 5:16-26 on page 1293. Invite them to mark this story with a sticker and share which one they chose and why.

Activate Faith (25 minutes)

Fruitful Friends Feed the World

Set Up: Prior to the lesson, preview and select the video clip you will use. Set up the video source and large screen so everyone in the room will be able to see it. If desired, prepare a snack for kids to enjoy while they watch the video—something fruit-related, perhaps! *Before serving any food, always check with caregivers for kids who have food allergies. Provide an alternative if necessary.*

Video Option 1: *The Santa Clause 3: The Escape Clause* (2006, live action, G)

Start cue: (1:04:41) Jack Frost descends the steps. “Nice to see you, *mon frère*. I’ve been waiting. Has it been 12 years already?”

End cue: (1:22:34) Lucy’s parents thaw out. Dad shouts, “Group hug!”

Scene set-up: Jack Frost tricks Scott Calvin into giving up his identity as Santa Claus. Scott returns to the North Pole to find that everything is out of whack. Though Jack appears to be Santa, he does not have a truly generous heart. Scott’s niece, Lucy, takes a daring step to set things right.

Activity Instructions for *The Santa Clause 3: The Escape Clause*

Invite some volunteers to imagine they are super-healthy, in-shape athletes who always eat what is good for them, drink enough water, and get enough rest. Then ask them to run in place, as if they were running a race. What would they look like? What kind of attitude would they have?

Now ask them to imagine that they are hungry. Or that they’d eaten nothing but candy all week. How would they look if they were running a race now?

What was the difference between our runners in these two situations?

(When they were well-fed and healthy, they were energetic, happy, able to encourage others, and able to think about the race and not about themselves. When they were malnourished, they were probably sluggish, grumpy, and weak.)

Spark Resources

None

Supplies

Option 1: *The Santa Clause 3: The Escape Clause*

Video source and large screen
Snack (optional)

Option 2: *High School Musical 2*
Video source and large screen
Snack (optional)

Paul was concerned about the way the Galatians were treating each other. Behaving selfishly and unkindly is usually a sign that something's not right inside our bodies. When we're tired or hungry or not taking good care of ourselves, we don't do a very good job showing love and kindness to others. Our bodies need to be filled with good things so that good things can show up in our lives.

In our movie clip today, you'll see characters who are "hungry." They need God's good fruit to fill them up. Let's see what happens to them!

Brief kids with the scene before showing *The Santa Clause 3: The Escape Clause*.

After watching, ask these questions:

Why do you think Lucy decided to be nice to Jack, even after he was mean to her? (*She knew that acting unkindly only makes for more unkind actions. Her unexpected gesture changed everything!*) **What effect did Lucy's kindness have on Jack?** (*His cold heart melted! She gave him love and forgiveness, and he became a new Jack!*)

Video Option 2: *High School Musical 2* (2007, live action, TV-G)

Start cue: (1:30:58) Sharpay screams. Troy tells her why he's dropping out of the show.

End cue: (1:43:05) Sharpay gives her award to Ryan.

Scene set-up: All summer long, Sharpay has looked down on her classmates, who all have summer jobs at the resort where Sharpay and her family are vacationing. She succeeds in dividing them when she lures Troy into her rich-kid world. When the talent show rolls around, Sharpay thinks she and Troy are a shoo-in to win. But Troy reconsiders and rejoins his true friends.

Activity Instructions for *High School Musical 2*

Invite some volunteers to imagine they are super-healthy, in-shape athletes, who always eat what is good for them, drink enough water, and get enough rest. Then ask them to run in place, as if they were running a race. What would they look like? What kind of attitude would they have?

Now ask them to imagine that they are hungry. Or that they'd eaten nothing but candy all week. How would they look if they were running a race now?

What was the difference between our runners in these two situations? Listen to kids' responses.

Paul was concerned about the way the Galatians were treating each other. Behaving selfishly and unkindly is usually a sign that something's not right inside our bodies. When we're tired or hungry or not taking good care of ourselves, we don't do a very good job showing love and kindness to others. Our bodies need to be filled with good things so that good things can show up in our lives.

In our movie clip today, you'll see characters who are "hungry." They need God's good fruit to fill them up. Let's see what happens to them!

Brief kids with the scene before showing *High School Musical 2*.

After watching, ask these questions:

What happens when Troy realizes the effects of his selfish behavior? (*He asks for forgiveness. Peace is restored between him and his friends. Sharpay's brother and friends all stand up for what is right, and Sharpay sees the light, too.*) **How does seeing Troy's change of heart (and the fruit of the Spirit he and his friends bear) affect Sharpay?** (*She realizes that it's not all about her. She gives up the trophy to her brother. The circle widens, and everyone becomes part of the community.*)

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.

Paul told the Galatians how to take better care of themselves and others. When you show love and kindness, your friendships and all the people around you are stronger, healthier, and happier.

Spark Resources

Family Pages



Supplies

None

Prayer Time

Invite kids to form a circle and join hands. Teach them the repeating line, "Feed us, teach us, help us grow!" and ask them to say it after every petition.

Help us all your love to share,

Feed us, teach us, help us grow!

Every way and everywhere.

Feed us, teach us, help us grow!

Help us bear your fruit each day,

Feed us, teach us, help us grow!

Everywhere in every way.

Feed us, teach us, help us grow!

Amen!

Workshop Focus: God's good fruit strengthens us for healthy living.

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!
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Open the Bible (10 minutes)

Fruit of the Spirit Storytelling

Set Up: Arrive at your workshop dressed in the hat and coat with pockets full of stuff.

Activity Instructions

Invite kids to be seated. **Welcome to Video!** Walk around in your coat and hat for a few moments. Then start to make an inconsiderate mess! Empty your pockets onto the floor. Remove your coat, hat, and shoes, and toss them on the floor, too.

How does your family take care of each other? Does your family have rules about the way you behave at the dinner table and with company? What do you do with your shoes and coat when you come home? How do you take care of your toys and games? Invite kids to respond.

It doesn't feel very good when people aren't nice to each other or when people don't respect each other's belongings or each other's space.

In today's story, Paul was worried about his friends. They were being mean to each other, and they were fighting. He told them that what they were doing was wrong, but he also told them that there was a better way to act. Let's listen to what he had to say.

Ask kids to find a spot where they can see a Spark Story Bible. **Find Fruit of the**

Spark Resources
Spark Story Bibles

Supplies

Coat
Hat
Assortment of small items in the coat's pockets (toys, pencils, paper towels, old sandwiches, etc.)

Spirit on page 550. Read the story aloud.

Paul didn't tell his friends only to stop doing certain things. He also encouraged them to start doing certain things. He gave them better rules to live by!

Activate Faith (25 minutes)

Fruit That's Good for You!

Set Up: Prior to the lesson, preview and select the video clip you will use. Set up the video source and large screen so everyone in the room will be able to see it. If desired, prepare a snack for kids to enjoy while they watch the video—something fruit-related, perhaps! *Before serving any food, always check with caregivers for kids who have food allergies. Provide an alternative if necessary.*

Video Option 1: *Hilda* "Chapter 6: The Nightmare Spirit" (2018, animated, TV-Y7)

Start cue: (7:30) David snores as Hilda looks at him through her binoculars.

End cue: (22:40) "If it's not too boring, you want to teach me how to ride a bike?"

Scene set-up: When Hilda's friend David is having nightmares, Hilda promises to get to the bottom of it and solve the problem.

Activity Instructions for *Hilda*

Paul said an important thing to the Galatians about how to get along and be a church. He said, "Let God's love fill you."

What would happen if all we ever ate was candy and sugar? It would taste good for a while, but how would we feel after a week? A month?

When we're hungry, we need good food to fill us! What are some foods that are good for you? (*Vegetables, meat, milk, and fruit!*)

Show the pitcher and the empty glasses. Set the glasses in the 9" x 13" (23 cm x 33 cm) pan. Fill the glasses with water. **When we fill these glasses with water, there's no room for anything else, is there? It's the same way with God's love. When we are filled with God's love, we have no room for things that are not part of God's love. When God's love fills us . . . pour more water into the glasses until they overflow . . . that love will spill out into the whole world!**

Spark Resources

None

Supplies

Option 1: *Hilda*

"Chapter 6: The Nightmare Spirit"

(Season 1, Episode 6)

Video source and large screen

Pitcher of water

Empty glasses

Cake pan, 9" x 13" (23 cm x 33 cm)

Snack (optional)

Option 2: *Tangled*

Video source and large screen

Pitcher of water

Empty glasses

Cake pan, 9" x 13" (23 cm x 33 cm)

Snack (optional)

In today's movie, you'll see characters who are filled with love and who produce good fruit. You'll also see some characters who are hungry for good fruit and need some love to spill into their lives. See if you can tell the difference.

Brief kids with the scene before showing *Hilda*.

After watching, ask these questions:

What was the problem with David? (*A marra was giving him nightmares.*) **What**

did Hilda and Frida do? (*They tracked down the marra and made a deal with her.*)

What did Hilda do for David? (*She offered to take his place and get nightmares.*)

Who showed good fruit of the spirit? (*Hilda, David, Frida*) **Who could work on showing more fruit of the Spirit?** (*The marra.*)

Video Option 2: *Tangled* (2010, animated, PG)

Start cue: (52:15) Rapunzel wraps her hair around Flynn's hand.

End cue: (1:05:37) "You get to go find a new dream."

Scene set-up: On the final day of their journey to see the lanterns, Rapunzel and Flynn learn more about each other, and Flynn and Maximus work together to make sure she has the best birthday.

Activity Instructions for *Tangled*

Paul said an important thing to the Galatians about how to get along and be a church. He said, "Let God's love fill you."

What would happen if all we ever ate was candy and sugar? It would taste good for a while, but how would we feel after a week? A month?

When we're hungry, we need good food to fill us! What are some foods that are good for you? (*Vegetables, meat, milk, and fruit!*)

Show the pitcher and the empty glasses. Set the glasses in the 9" x 13" (23 cm x 33 cm) pan. Fill the glasses with water. **When we fill these glasses with water, there's no room for anything else, is there? It's the same way with God's love. When we are filled with God's love, we have no room for things that are not part of God's love. When God's love fills us . . . pour more water into the glasses until they overflow . . . that love will spill out into the whole world!**

In today's movie, you'll see characters who are filled with love and who produce good fruit. Pay attention to which fruits of the Spirit they show.

Brief kids with the scene before showing *Tangled*.

After watching, ask these questions:

Which characters could use a little more love, joy, peace, patience, etc. in their diet? Which characters share the fruit of the Spirit? What do you think Paul would have said to these characters? Listen to and discuss kids' responses.

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.

Paul showed the Galatians a better way to live. By pointing out what wasn't working, he helped them discover a better way. Living with the fruit of the Spirit spills God's love over the entire world.

Spark Resources

Family Pages



Supplies

None

Prayer Time

Invite kids to form a circle and join hands. Ask them to repeat each line of the closing prayer.

**Help us be your fruitful trees,
Rooted deeply in your word.
By our lives Good News proclaim,
Feeding all the hungry world.
Amen.**