

Parent Link *Faith@home*

A Parent Resource from the Children's Ministry of Faith Bible Church, DeSoto, TX

Harvesting Spiritual Fruit

With fall comes the long-awaited harvest, as farmers across the land see the fruits of their labors. Likewise, when we invite God to plant His Holy Spirit in our hearts, we'll bear fruit, too.

Galatians 5:22 lists the good fruit that God wants His followers to bear: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

These qualities can be tough to live out—especially in families consisting of imperfect people. Thankfully, God's Holy Spirit helps us be fruitful

"in every part of our lives" (Gal 5:25).

Right before listing the nine fruit of the Spirit in Galatians 5, the apostle Paul lists their opposites: the desires that stem from our sinful nature. These include impurity, idolatry, hostility, quarreling, jealousy, angry outbursts, selfish ambition,

dissension, division, envy, and more (see verses 19-21). In families, sometimes those things threaten the spiritual fruit that God wants us to live out. With prayer and practice, however, we can resist temptation and sin, growing spiritual fruit even when facing tough challenges. Explore these insights about the role of each fruit in your home. More...p.2

ASK GOD:

1. To show your family how to live out each fruit of the Spirit.
2. To help you grow more fruit in your life—and to share God's bounty with others.



Upcoming Events

Trunk or Treat

Oct. 31, 6-9pm

Rain or Shine!

Lots of candy, games, train ride, petting zoo, horse rides, inflatables, food, and fun!

Invite your friends, family, and all your neighbors.

Want to help?

Donate candy in the foyers and sign up to host a trunk or as a volunteer.



Contact Pastor Jerry
jhull@faithbible.com

FBC Kids

Ultimate Adventure

Sundays, 9am

In The GOSPEL PROJECT we'll see more of Jesus' early ministry and His life-changing miracles.

Children's Church

Sundays, 10:30am

In October, we will learn about Paul's Epistles of Galatians, Romans, Ephesians, and Colossians. From these letters we will gain a greater understanding of justification by faith, the greatness of Jesus Christ, and the spiritual blessings given to all believers.

Lil' FBC Kids

Nursery & Pre-K

Available during both Sunday services.

Mother's Day Out

Tu & Th, 9-2:30pm

Info at 972-223-0000 x136

mainly music

Mondays, 9:30am

Come enjoy music and movement for you and your little one.

The Preschool Playground

project is well underway! Watch the progress and celebrate with us when it is completed this month!

*Still pray for this project & consider giving to this need.

Awana

Sundays

4:30-6:30pm

This month at Awana...

Oct. 5 BAF (That's Bring A Friend) Team Color Night A
*It's also the deadline to sign up for Pine Cove!

Oct. 10-12 Pine Cove Retreat

Oct. 12 Adventure Night

Oct. 19 Awana Store Night

Oct. 26 Awana

Oct. 31 Trunk or Treat!!!
Bring your friends! It's so fun!
Invite them back to Awana
Nov 2.

More info at
FaithBible.com



The role of each fruit in your home (continued)

Love—First Corinthians chapter 13, known as the “love chapter,” is popular at weddings but also contains wisdom for family life. Love is patient and kind (two other spiritual fruits!). It isn’t jealous, boastful, proud, rude, or self-seeking. And love always perseveres and endures, no matter the obstacles your family faces.

Joy—Spiritual joy is gladness that doesn’t depend on your family’s circumstances. Rejoice that Jesus came to die for all of your sins and that the Lord’s joy is your strength (see Nehemiah 8:10).

Peace—True peace trusts that God is in charge and has a plan for your family. Jesus, the Prince of Peace, offers His followers peace that “exceeds anything we can understand” (Philippians 4:7).

Patience—Many parents say this fruit is the toughest to display at home, where tempers often run short. Remembering God’s patience with you—as well as His perfect timing—can reduce your irritation with family members.

Kindness—This fruit flows from your life when you put others’ needs first and follow the Golden Rule at home: “Do to others as you would like them to do to you” (Luke 6:31).

Goodness—Because only God is perfect, any goodness you show to your family members comes from Him. During Jesus’ life on earth, He modeled how to provide and seek good things for other people.

Faithfulness—This fruit involves being “full” of faith, trusting God completely, as well as being trustworthy and reliable to one another. As Jesus says in Luke 16:10, “If you are faithful in little things, you will be faithful in large ones.”

Gentleness—When you treat family members with care and concern, using pleasant words and a quiet tone of voice, your gentleness reaps a noticeable harvest in your home.

Self-Control—Satan uses our sinful human desires to tear families apart, but Scripture says God’s followers “are controlled by the Spirit if you have the Spirit of God living in you” (Romans 8:9).

Blessings as God’s Spirit fills your family with all this fruit!

TEACHABLE MOMENTS

Growing a Good Crop

With your family, draw a large mural of a tree with roots. Also draw nine pieces of various fruit on the tree, and write a fruit of the Spirit on each piece. Give everyone index cards and something to write or draw with.

Have kids draw pictures of what a few fruits mean to them. Older kids can write what the fruit of the Spirit means to them. Discuss each fruit and attach the cards to the mural.

Read aloud John 15:5. Then ask:

What conditions affect crops? To grow these fruit of the Spirit in our lives, what conditions do we need? What will help us live a fruit-filled life for God?

Close in prayer: Dear God, please provide good conditions so we can bear good fruit for You by how we live. In Jesus’ name, amen.

“Every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit.”

—Matthew 7:17-18

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