

READ IT

This rotation's Bible story is

Fruit of the Spirit

from Galatians 5:16-26.

God's Spirit—a spirit of love—helps us live well together.

Ask each other what you remember about:

- Galatians
- Paul
- Letter
- Fruit of the Spirit

The Letter to the Galatians was written around 55 C.E. during Paul's third missionary journey. It gives lots of autobiographical details of Paul's life and mission. It is also a tremendous theological document.

Read the whole story together in the Bible!

Spark Story Bible pages 550-553

Spark Bible page 1293

Family Prayer

Say this prayer while everyone is holding a piece of fruit.

God of love, we thank you that you have first loved us so that we may love all others in our family, church, community, and world, as you have called us to do. AMEN.

TALK ABOUT IT



Family Conversations

- 1 What is your favorite kind of fruit?
- 2 What is the hardest fruit of the Spirit to live by?
- 3 Do you think some of the fruit of the Spirit are more important than others? Why or why not?
- 4 Toss a piece of fruit to one another. Whoever catches it gets to listen as the others in the group announce which fruit of the Spirit they see active in their life. Example: "Maria, I see you being so generous with your time in helping others." Then the fruit is tossed to someone else. At the end, share the fruit together!



Eye Spark

When you go to the grocery store or the farmer's market and see all the produce piled high, think of the fruit of the Spirit piled high in your life!



Ear Spark

When you hear bad news about human violence, greed, and hatred, think of someone you know who clearly lives out one of the Spirit's fruits, like love, joy, or peace.

LIVE IT

For families to do together

Make Fruit of the Spirit Fruit Salad! Create a beautiful fruit salad using nine different kinds of fruit. As you enjoy eating it together, see if you can memorize all nine fruit of the Spirit.

For younger kids

See if you can find a storybook off of your own shelves or at the library that illustrates each of the nine fruit of the Spirit that Paul wrote about. If not, illustrate your own! Read the book together with your family and friends.

For older kids

Make a checklist for yourself that lists the nine fruit of the Spirit. Then look for opportunities to practice each one. When you do, that is God's Spirit working through you!

TRY IT

Art

Make a family fruit basket together. Each family member cuts out a fruit shape from construction paper and writes a gift on his or her fruit. Cut out a fruit basket shape and glue or tape your family's fruit to it. Display it so you can remember each member's unique gift.

Computer Lab

Use clip art or photos to make fruit cards on the computer. Print and cut out the cards. Then write each person's name near a fruit. Place cards in a container. Each person picks a name and does something special to show love to that person anonymously. Change names the following week.

Creative Drama

Go through a magazine or catalog together as each person chooses one thing from the magazine that they like. This isn't about getting more things—it's about making good choices. Discuss each family member's choice and decide if it's a good choice.

Video

The next time you plan family movie night, think fruit instead of popcorn for a snack. Invite each family member to put a favorite fruit on the grocery list for the week. Make a fruit salad, fruit kabobs, a fruit platter, or a fruit pizza. Then enjoy the show!

Bible Skills and Games

Name a fruit of the Spirit and then pick a fruit that you think goes with it. Here's an example: Patience, the fruit that I would pick to go with patience is the pomegranate. I picked it because it takes patience to get the little seeds out to eat.

Cooking

Find a local fruit grower offering a "You-pick" option, or check out produce at the grocery store you usually don't purchase. Fill up your basket or cart with one piece of each fruit of the Spirit. At home, use the nine pieces of fruit as your table's centerpiece for a few days.

Music

Choose a fruit from the grocery store to be your fruit of the Spirit for the week. Assign one fruit of the Spirit to it. Eat that fruit at several meals, and share ways you can show that fruit of the Spirit. Celebrate with a special dance for each fruit!

Science

Plants grow fruits to scatter seeds. Wrap pieces of masking tape, sticky side out, around your wrists. Go outside and look for seeds to stick onto to the tape. At the end of the walk, compare the seeds and guess how the seeds travel to new areas.