

Press on in Confidence

Lesson #18

Colossians 1:9-14, John 15:4-5, Galatians 5:22-23a (NLT)

HOOK: Take a look at this strong, sturdy vine (print a picture of one from the Internet). See the branches growing out of the vine? These branches are only able to grow and produce fruit because they are attached to the vine. God is called the True Vine and we are the branches. Like the branches in this picture, we have to stay connected to our True Vine, the Lord, so we can produce fruit.

BOOK: When we open the Bible, we read that Paul tells the Colossians that he is praying for them to continue to live in a way that honors God so they will produce “**fruit in every good work.**” What kind of fruit is Paul talking about? Can we produce grapes? Can we grow apples out of our head? Of course not! Paul does *not* mean the fruit we eat. He means that when we learn about the Lord, obey and serve Him with the gifts and talents He’s given us, we stay connected to God, the True Vine. Then, our life produces what is good or “fruit”!

LOOK: As we stay connected to God, like those branches connected to the vine, God’s Spirit helps us to live in a way that pleases Him. The Bible says: “...**the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.**” Now that is some wonderful fruit!

TOOK: When you go home today, think about the way you treat the people you live with. How do you act at home? It’s hard sometimes to be loving, patient, kind and gentle. It can be difficult to have self-control when we feel like having a temper tantrum or saying something mean. We may not always feel joyful or peaceful or desire what is good. But, no matter how we feel, we can *be* and *do* those things when we stay connected to God. So when you struggle to live the way you know God wants you to, ask Him to help you live out the Fruit of the Spirit.

Bible Verse: “...**the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.**” Galatians 5:22-23a

Prayer: “Father God and True Vine, Help us to stay connected to You and please You. We want to live out the Fruit of the Spirit and produce fruit in every good work. Amen.”

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what we
learned

Paul tells the Colossians that he is praying for them to continue to live in a way that honors God, so they will produce **“fruit in every good work.”** Paul does *not* mean the fruit we eat. He means that when we learn about the Lord, obey and serve Him with the gifts and talents He’s given us, we stay connected to God, the True Vine. Then, our life produces what is good or “fruit”! As we stay connected to God, like branches on a vine, God’s Spirit helps us to live in a way that pleases Him. The Bible says: **“...the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.”** What wonderful fruit!



memory
verse

“...the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.” Galatians 5:22-23a NLT



parent/child
activity

This week, talk often with your child about the Fruit of the Spirit. Perhaps highlight one or two a day and take turns coming up with real-life examples of what that Fruit looks like when we live it out. For example, *love* is an action. How do we “do” love in a way that serves one another? How do we exercise *self-control* when we find ourselves starting to get angry? Etc.



daily prayer

“Father God and True Vine, Help us to stay connected to You and please You. We want to live out the Fruit of the Spirit and produce fruit in every good work. Amen.”

the learning
TLC
continues