

# Faithfulness and Gentleness

Galatians 5:22-23



New Testament 6  
Part 2: Fruit of the Spirit

## SUNDAY MORNING

New Testament 6 [Class Attendance Sheet](#) provided in activity sheets (NOTE: The document is interactive, allowing the teacher to type in the Class, Teacher, and the children's names.)

### SCRIPTURE REFERENCES:

Galatians 5:22-23; Colossians 1:23; Psalm 1; Daniel 3; 6

### MEMORY WORK:

“Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life” (Revelation 2:10b).

### SONGS AND FINGERPLAYS (SEE END OF LESSON FOR WORDS):

A [song book](#) and [audio recordings](#) of many of the curriculum songs are available on the curriculum Web site.

- [“The Fruit of the Spirit”](#)
- [“Faith, Obedience, and Authority”](#)
- [“Fruit of the Spirit”](#)
- [“The Fruit of the Spirit”](#)

### LESSON VISUALS AND TEACHING AIDS (NOTE ANY DISCLAIMERS):

- See [AP's Pinterest page](#) for ideas on bulletin boards, visuals, crafts, etc. [DISCLAIMER: Pins may sometimes need to be adjusted to be Scriptural.]
- [Paul & the Fruit of the Spirit](#) Bible fact cards (provided under “N.T. 6 Bible Facts” on curriculum Web site)
- “Summary of the Bible” from [“Kids Prep”](#) CD by Jeff Miller
- Pictures/drawings from the books listed under 3rd-4th Grader Pre-Class Activities/Learning Centers
- Visuals (pictures, books, flip charts, etc) of Daniel in the lions' den, Daniel's three friends in the fiery furnace, John the Baptizer, Jeremiah, Joseph, Paul, Noah

### PERSONAL APPLICATION:

I must be faithful to God and make good choices.



## LESSON STARTS HERE

### INTRODUCTION: (YOUNGER CHILDREN)

Last week we talked about being kind and good to others. What are some things we do that are unkind? What are some things we can do to show kindness to others?

Today we are going to learn what it means to be faithful. Have you ever heard the word faithful? God wants us to be faithful to Him. There were some men in the Bible who were very faithful to God. We can learn to be faithful from the ways they lived.

### INTRODUCTION: (OLDER CHILDREN)

Review all the fruit of the Spirit and last week's lesson.

Our next fruit of the Spirit is "faithfulness." What does it mean to be faithful? Just believing in God is not enough; we have to trust God all our lives. But sometimes our faithfulness is put to the test. There were many men in the Bible who were faithful to God and were persecuted because of it. Let's see what we can learn from them and how we must always be faithful to God.

### POINTS TO EMPHASIZE:

1. **PRESCHOOL TEACHERS:** Children this age will have difficulty understanding the idea of "faithfulness." Review/retell the stories of Noah, Daniel, Joseph, and/or Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, emphasizing that their belief and faith in God kept them from making wrong choices and saved them in the end.
2. Faithfulness means steadfastness, loyalty, and dependability. It means trusting in and believing in something or someone. A faithful person can be trusted or counted on, and he trusts others as well—namely God. Faithfulness means believing in something or someone so strongly that I won't let anyone change my way of thinking. It means "sticking by" a friend in need. Faithfulness is loving God so much that we try hard to honor Him by our good choices. Daniel's faithfulness to God, even in the face of death, is a great example to us. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego are also good examples of faithfulness, as well as Jeremiah, Joseph, Paul, Noah, etc.
3. Paul praised Christians who were faithful to God (Ephesians 1:1; 6:21; Colossians 1:7; 4:7). Paul said, "Moreover, it is required in stewards that one be found faithful" (1 Corinthians 4:2). Being faithful to God means that we trust Him all the time—not just when it is convenient, or only when we are with other good people. Faithfulness is a way of living—not a matter of how I feel at a particular moment. It not only describes something we do, but something we are, i.e., we act faithfully (trusting in God) because we are faithful.
4. Talk with the students about situations and circumstances where we must be faithful, loyal, and steadfast: church attendance, staying in school, marriage, being part of a team sport, showing support for a friend with problems, sticking with a tough job, etc. (Quitting something we have agreed to do, or running from problems, usually makes the problems worse.)
5. **FOR OLDER CHILDREN:**

## FAITHFULNESS

### Hebrews 11

Has anyone ever told you that the Earth was round? How do you know they were telling the truth? Have you ever been in a rocket ship high above the Earth so you could see for yourself? No, you haven't. Then how can you be sure they're telling the truth?

Have you ever been to Hawaii? People say it is a beautiful state with palm trees and bright flowers. Is that true? How do you know if you haven't been there yourself?

Have you ever met George Washington? In school, your teachers say that he was the first President of our country. How do you know they are telling the truth if you have never seen him for yourself?

You believe that the world is round, that Hawaii is a beautiful place, and that George Washington was the first President because you have faith in the people who have told you, because they have proven themselves to be trustworthy and because of other evidence that is available. The Bible says that "faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." That means that you have faith when you believe in something you can't see but you believe the evidence for its existence.

To be faithful means that you believe in what the Bible teaches about God, Jesus, Creation, heaven, and many other things. It also means that you try to live more and more like Jesus every day because of your faith (because of what you believe). Hebrews 11 lists several people who were faithful to God until they died. See if you can find out who some of these people were.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ offered a better sacrifice to God than his brother (verse 4).
2. \_\_\_\_\_ was such a faithful man that God took him into heaven without the man dying (verse 5).
3. Before he died, \_\_\_\_\_ mentioned the Exodus of the Israelites from Egypt, hundreds of years before it was to happen (verse 22).
4. \_\_\_\_\_ offered up his only son to God because he believed that God would keep His promise to give him many descendants (verses 17-19).
5. By faith, the \_\_\_\_\_ passed through the Red Sea on dry land to escape the Egyptians (verse 29).
6. \_\_\_\_\_ the harlot did not die with the rest of the people of Jericho because she believed that God would help the Israelites; she hid the two spies who came to Jericho (verse 31).
7. By faith, \_\_\_\_\_ confronted a giant with five smooth stones when the whole army of Israel was afraid (verse 32).

8. Daniel's friends believed in God so much that they were willing to be thrown into a fiery furnace rather than bow down to an idol.

These friends were: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_,

and \_\_\_\_\_ (Daniel 3:19-27).

Copy these scriptures:

Hebrews 11:6

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Revelation 2:10b

Be \_\_\_\_\_

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**PRE-CLASS ACTIVITIES/LEARNING CENTERS (TO BE USED AS CHILDREN ARE ARRIVING—BEFORE CLASS, AND UP TO THE FIRST FIVE MINUTES OF CLASS; OR AS HOMEWORK):**

- Click here for complete [Activity Book](#) and [Answer Key](#)

**Ages 2-5:**

- [“Faithfulness Coloring Sheet”](#) (provided in activity sheets)
- Puzzles of Daniel, Noah, and Joseph
- Have pictures/outlines of Daniel, Noah, Joseph, and a boy or girl (to represent the child) for the children to color. Print/copy the words “I will be faithful to God like Daniel, Noah, and Joseph!” on a piece of card stock/construction paper (one per child). Have the children glue their figures onto their papers. ([“Boy and Girl Cutouts”](#) provided in activity sheets)
- Review game: Write review questions over this unit on the back of fruit cutouts or plastic fruit. Place the fruit all over the room. Let the children take turns picking up a piece of fruit and answering the question written on it. Have a basket for the children to place their fruit in after they have answered their question. ([“Fruit Cutouts”](#) provided in activity sheets)

**1st-2nd Graders:**

- Work on today’s memory verse or Galatians 5:22-23. Write the words of the memory verse on the board. Erase individual words, and let the students fill in missing words until they can repeat the entire verse.
- [“Fruit of the Spirit Word Search”](#) (provided in activity sheets)
- [“Fruit of the Spirit Word Scramble”](#) (provided in activity sheets)

**3rd-4th Graders:**

- Work on today’s memory verse or Galatians 5:22-23. Write the words of the memory verse on the board. Erase individual words and let the students fill in missing words until they can repeat the entire verse.
- [“Fruit of the Spirit Word Search”](#) (provided in activity sheets)
- [“Fruit of the Spirit Word Scramble”](#) (provided in activity sheets)
- Divide the children into groups. Make sure everyone has a Bible, and give each group a concordance. Have the groups look up “faith” and “faithfulness.” After several minutes, let the groups take turns reading some of the passages they found.
- Have the children read the following:
  - Psalm 1
  - *The Berenstain Bears Faithful Friends*, by Jan and Mike Berenstain, Zonderkidz
  - *The Fruit of the Spirit* workbook, by Barb Marshall, Shining Star Publications (DISCLAIMERS: skip pp. 3,6-8,13)

## SONGS:

### “THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT”

Author: Jeff Miller

(Tune: See “[Kids Prep](#)” CD)

Get the fruit of the Spirit,  
It’s love, joy, peace, long-suffering;  
Kindness, goodness, and faithfulness,  
Gentleness, and self-control.

### “FAITH, OBEDIENCE, AND AUTHORITY” ([Click to Hear](#))

Author: Sarah Richey

(Tune: “Farmer in the Dell”)

Believing in the Lord,  
Believing in the Lord,  
That’s what faith is,  
Believing in the Lord.

Doing what He said,  
Doing what He said,  
That is obedience,  
Doing what He said.

Telling what to do,  
Telling what to do,  
That is authority,  
Telling what to do.

### “FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT” ([Click to Hear](#))

Author: Unknown\*

(Tune: “Qué Será, Será”)

When you become a child of God, fruits of the Spirit, you must show.  
They are not apples, grapefruits, or plums—just sing and you will know.

Love and joy and peace,  
You must from the heart give these.  
Show patience and gentleness, and show goodness, please.

When you become a child of God, fruits of the Spirit, you must show.  
They are not apples, grapefruits, or plums—just sing and you will know.

Wear the shield of faith,  
Show meekness and self-control.  
When you are a child of God, you will practice these.

**“THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT” ([Click to Hear](#))**

Author: Unknown\*

(Tune: See Internet)

(Have pictures of the fruits mentioned below to use with the song.)

VERSE 1:

The fruit of the Spirit is a cantaloupe. NOPE!

The fruit of the Spirit is a cantaloupe. NOPE!

If you want to be a cantaloupe,

You might as well hear it,

You can't be a fruit of the Spirit!

CHORUS:

'Cause the fruit is:

Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness,

Faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control!

Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness,

Faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control!

VERSE 2:

The fruit of the Spirit is a kumquat. WHAT?

The fruit of the Spirit is a kumquat. WHAT?

If you want to be a kumquat,

You might as well hear it,

You can't be a fruit of the Spirit!

(CHORUS)

VERSE 3:

The fruit of the Spirit is a watermelon. WHATCHA YELLING?

The fruit of the Spirit is a watermelon. WHATCHA YELLING?

If you want to be a watermelon,

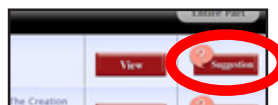
You might as well hear it,

You can't be a fruit of the Spirit!

(CHORUS)

\*Author Unknown: Please contact us through the feedback button for this lesson if you are aware of any copyright information for this song.

\*\*\* IF YOU HAVE SUGGESTIONS PERTAINING TO THIS LESSON, PLEASE CLICK THE “SUGGESTION” BUTTON BESIDE THE BUTTON FOR THIS LESSON ON THE CURRICULUM WEB SITE.







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Galatians 5:22-23



New Testament 6  
Part 2: Fruit of the Spirit

## WEDNESDAY EVENING

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### SCRIPTURE REFERENCES:

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### MEMORY WORK:

“Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life” (Revelation 2:10b).

### SONGS AND FINGERPLAYS (SEE END OF SUNDAY'S LESSON FOR WORDS):

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### PERSONAL APPLICATION:

I must be gentle towards others, even when they are unkind to me.



## INTRODUCTION:

Review [N.T. 6 Bible Fact Flash Cards](#) (provided under “N.T. 6 Bible Facts” on curriculum Web site)

## POINTS TO EMPHASIZE:

1. Review Sunday’s lesson. (see [N.T. 6 Review Questions](#) for example questions)
2. Re-emphasize the importance of and meaning of faithfulness. Use the parable of the talents (Matthew 25:14-30) as an example of faithfulness.
3. Gentleness is sometimes called “meekness” in the Bible. It means “strength under control.”
4. Paul told Timothy that Christians need to not only be faithful to God but to be gentle/meek to others (1 Timothy 6:11-12).
5. Jesus said that those who are gentle/meek will inherit the Earth (Matthew 5:5). Jesus was the most gentle person who’s ever lived, and if we want to be like Him, then we must be gentle with others, just as He was (with the children, with the sick, with those who do not understand His message).
6. “Let your gentleness be known to all men” (Philippians 4:5). How can we show gentleness to others?
7. Other scriptures to read and discuss with the children: Titus 3:2; James 3:17; Ephesians 4:2

## PRE-CLASS ACTIVITIES/LEARNING CENTERS (TO BE USED AS CHILDREN ARE ARRIVING—**BEFORE** CLASS, AND UP TO THE FIRST FIVE MINUTES OF CLASS; OR AS HOMEWORK):

See Sunday morning’s lesson

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