

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

Galatians 5:22-23

Preparation

During the Feast of Tabernacles, you will have the privilege of leading your students to a greater understanding about the Fruit of the Spirit. Paul has given the list in Galatians 5:22-23. It is important that when presenting this list you emphasize that these nine virtues make up the Fruit of the Spirit. Do not make fruit plural.

Why do we take the time to teach our children God's Word at the Feast of Tabernacles? The answer is that we desire them to walk in obedience to God with the ultimate goal of them receiving the gift of eternal life in God's Family and Kingdom. To reach this goal we must teach and rely on the Holy Spirit to guide us, and the children we teach.

In Galatians 5:16-23, Paul gives two ways of approaching life. One way is works of the flesh. In other words, doing things by our own strength. The other is allowing God's Spirit to work in us. You will be teaching your students the best approach, which is internalizing the Fruit of the Spirit. Not only will they be learning about the Fruit of the Spirit they will also be instructed about how each of these virtues has a place in their life. As they strive to obey God and do good work they will learn their work is the result of what they do while the Fruit of the Spirit is who they are.

The Feast of Tabernacles is a perfect time to teach that salvation is the means by which God, through Christ, saves man from the penalty of sin and gives him eternal life. This festival analogously

acts out the Millennium. It is a time when the source of evil, Satan, will not be around.

The great truth that we want our students to grasp at the Feast of Tabernacles is God does indeed speak to us through His Word. The Bible is the inspired Word of God and there are no errors. In addition, if God is to be known as our loving Heavenly Father, we must know His Word. However, just knowing His Word is not enough. Knowing the Word does not automatically bring about living the truth. We must be obedient to what God has revealed to us through His Word.

Your job at the Feast is to do more than just teach Biblical information, facts and help your students memorize scripture. It is important your students understand they are learning at the Feast applies to their everyday lives. Do not stress perfect recitation of scripture, but rather help your students to comprehend the meaning of scripture and explore how it applies to their life. Even younger children can give in their own words what the meaning of the scripture is. If you are not doing this, you are not fulfilling your responsibility as a teacher of the Word of God.

This Festival Planner is designed to help you, the teacher. You have the freedom to develop and create your lessons to meet the needs of your students. Use the materials in this book to generate creative ideas and guidance. We pray that the tools we've provided will help to make your ministry effective to the children in our church.

How to Use

- There are eight lessons provided for the Feast. Prior to the Feast of Tabernacles read the lessons, go over the activity pages and craft ideas. Keep in mind the ages of the students you will be teaching.
- Shop for all the supplies you need for the craft projects. The more you prepare, the greater success you will have. Since we do not always know how many children will attend Sabbath school at the Feast, it is best to prepare for a greater number of students. In order to save time, activities that require using scissors to cut out shapes should be done in advance. Once again, this depends on the age of your students. The crafts are an important part of the teacher's tools. The crafts help you guide your students in making abstract ideas such as love, joy, patience, faith, and obedience concrete.
- This year we are not providing activity pages for you in your Festival Planner. Instead, all the activity pages are in the Activity Books that you will pass out on the first day of class. This workbook contains puzzles, coloring pages and activities that cover the Fruit of the Spirit and the stories covered in your lessons. Emphasize with your students that they are expected to bring their Bible and Activity Book to class each day.
- The Teen activity book looks more like a workbook and is similar to the Teacher's Planner. Some of the lessons have additional questions within the body of the lessons. If you are teaching the teens, take the time to look at their workbook.
- Several songs have been provided. This is probably the highlight at each Feast site for the entire congregation. Reinforce with your students that when they sing for the

congregation they are not only giving to their church but they are also worshiping God. If you are not musical, find someone who will come into your class for about 10 to 15 minutes each day of the Feast to help teach the children the song. Make it fun! Do not get discouraged if everything you do isn't a success. We, as teachers, are working toward being mature and complete. You will reach your highest potential as a teacher when you teach by example. Let your love for God, your Christian joy and your worshipful attitude inspire your students and help them joyfully worship and experience the love of God.

- As you prepare for this Feast's Sabbath school, go to God in prayer and ask that He prepare your heart and mind. Then relax and take delight in sharing the Word of God with the children you've been entrusted to teach. Your heart and mind will then be ready for the task ahead.