

POWER UP: RAISE YOUR GAME

GOD VIEW:

THE CONNECTION BETWEEN THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT AND GOD'S CHARACTER, AS SHOWN THROUGH GOD'S BIG STORY

THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT IS WHAT GOD IS DOING IN YOU TO CHANGE THE WORLD AROUND YOU.

WEEK 1

We start the month in **1 Corinthians 13:4-8a**. The Apostle Paul wrote a letter to a church in the city of Corinth who was struggling with putting love into action. We'll discover different aspects of what it looks like to love others.

Bottom Line: **Love others because God loves you.** God gave us the ultimate example of love when God sent Jesus to live a perfect life and die on the cross to make it possible for us to have a forever-relationship with God. Kids will discover how God's love for us can motivate us to show love to others.

WEEK 2

Next, we head to **Acts 5:17-42** where Luke records the trouble that Jesus' disciples faced when they started spreading the message of Jesus. No matter what happened to them, the Holy Spirit gave them what they needed to find joy, even when it was difficult.

Bottom Line: **Choose joy no matter what's going on.** From not making the team to struggling in a class at school, kids of all ages struggle with what it means to have joy when life is hard. Through this lesson, we pray they start to discover what God can do in them to help them choose joy.

WEEK 3

Next, we head to a moment from the Sermon on the Mount recorded for us in **Matthew 6:26** Jesus reminded His followers not to worry. After all, if God cares for the birds of the air and the flowers of the field, God will definitely care for each one of us and what we need.

Bottom Line: **You can have peace because God is in control.** Sometimes we might wonder what kids have to worry about. However, any disruption in schedule or expectations or argument with a friend, can cause kids to feel like life is out of control. We hope that as kids learn how much God cares for them, they'll discover how they can find peace.

WEEK 4

In **Luke 2:22-35** we read about Simeon. God promised Simeon that he would live to see the Messiah. While we're not sure how long he waited, he must have been so excited when the Holy Spirit led him into the temple courtyard where Simeon saw Mary and Joseph with Jesus! God's promises were true, and seeing Jesus was worth the wait!

Bottom Line: **When you need to wait, ask God for patience.** We all face moments where we'll find it difficult to have patience. From waiting in line to get a seat at your favorite restaurant to sitting in construction traffic on your way to vacation, how can you have patience when you just want to get a move on? We pray that kids will start with prayer and ask God for help. God can give us patience in any situation!

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WEEK 5

Key Question: **How can you be kind, even when it's hard?** Preteens are starting to experience friendships in a new way. They're starting to realize that not everyone likes them, and they don't necessarily like everyone either. This can be difficult for them to navigate, especially when it comes to showing kindness. We'll help preteens discover how they can show kindness, no matter who needs it.

We finish the month in **Luke 10:25-37** and look at Jesus' familiar parable of The Good Samaritan. Through this story, Jesus completely changed how people who follow Him should look at showing kindness to others. Kindness isn't just for people we know or like, but it's for everyone we meet.

Bottom Line: **Be kind to everyone.** Everyone is someone who God loves. We pray that our kids start to realize that everyone deserves kindness. We'll help them discover simple ways they can put God's love into action with the way they are kind to people they meet.