

LESSON PLAN

Lesson Number: 175
Grade Level: 4-6

Date: _____
 Title: One More Chance/The Fig Tree
 Text/Story: Luke 13:6-9; John 15:1-8
 Main idea: The Lord expects us to bear fruit; if we do not, we will suffer eternal punishment in due time.
 Key Verse: Luke 13:9

Time	Activity	Description
	Pre-Lesson 1 Bulletin Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Materials: large brown construction paper, green construction paper, red construction paper, scissors, pencils, felt pens • Have the class participate in making a giant tree to decorate the wall; appoint groups to do: tree trunk, branches, leaves and fruits • Tape tree, leaves and fruits to wall • Use tree to launch into the lesson on the parable of the fig tree
	Pre-Lesson 2 "Field Trip"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask someone in church who is knowledgeable about trees and plants to accompany the class for a walk into the neighbourhood to 'study' trees • Have the 'tree expert' give some facts about fruit trees: parts, types, needs etc. (make it short and to the point) • Discuss ways trees fail to produce fruit and what tree growers have to do to these trees
	Lesson Luke 13:6-9; John 15:1-8 Galatians 5:22-23 Comparison Chart: "Are You Bearing Fruit?"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read the verses in Luke and John together or in groups • Discuss how Jesus relates the picture of a tree to people; ask students to brainstorm what they think are the 'fruits' Jesus is looking for in our lives • Have class read Galatians 5:22-23 together • Distribute the worksheet "Are You Bearing Fruit?"; have students write down the Fruit of the Spirit in the left-hand column • Ask students to come up with words that show the opposite of the Fruit and write them down in the right-hand column; discuss examples (Love: Forgiving--Hate: Hurting someone because you hate him/her)
	Post-Lesson 1 Bulletin Board (cont'd)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have the students write the Fruit of the Spirit on the paper 'fruits' on the tree made at the beginning of class; on other cut-out fruits, write down some examples of how we show our good fruits



ARE YOU BEARING FRUIT?

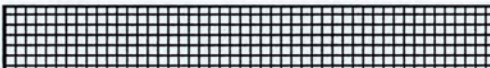
In the left column, list down the Fruit of the Spirit found in Galatians 5:22-23. In the right column, right down words that describe the opposite of each 'fruit.'

If you have the Fruit of the Spirit, you have:	If you <i>don't</i> have the Fruit of the Spirit, you have:



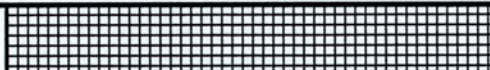
No Law Against It!

Jesus expects fruit from a Christian's life. The time will come when all who do not bear fruit will be cut down — eternally punished. The Bible tells us what kind of fruit Christians are expected to have in their lives. The following verses are found in Galatians 5:22,23. "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law."



Next to each of the fruits of the Spirit listed below, write an action that might indicate that a Christian is, indeed, producing "fruit" for God's kingdom.

- Love _____
- Joy _____
- Peace _____
- Longsuffering (patience) _____
- Gentleness _____
- Goodness _____
- Faith _____
- Meekness _____
- Temperance (self-control) _____



Why do you suppose the words, "against such there is no law," were added at the end of those verses? What is there a law against? Why? _____



Bearing Fruit for the Master

When you are saved you are grafted to the Vine, which is Jesus. From Him you are able to draw strength for your spiritual growth. Following are some comparisons of plant life to a Christian life. Using the lesson text (Luke 13:6-9 and John 15:1-8) and your own experience in life, respond to the questions below.

In order for a plant to survive, certain elements are necessary: air, soil, and water. If a plant has this environment, not only will it survive but it will grow. What is necessary in order for your Christian life to survive?

A big, beautiful plant with lovely foliage is okay, but the grower expects a harvest. What type of harvest does God expect in a Christian's life?

Name some of the fruits God expects.

There are two ways the grower of the vineyard prunes his plants. First he cuts off all the non-fruit-bearing branches. What is this likened to in our life?

Next, from a fruit-bearing branch, he cuts off all the growth that saps nutrients from the fruit and then cuts in certain areas to encourage new growth and bigger fruit. What are some ways God works in our lives to encourage more and better fruit?

