

Q10

LIFE OF JESUS

## The Vine And The Branches

[PursueGOD.org](http://PursueGOD.org)

## Lesson Overview

Today, we're going to talk about how grapes are made. Well, the lesson includes grapes but it's not really about grapes. Sometimes, Jesus would tell a story about everyday things to teach people an important lesson. In one lesson, Jesus talked about how grapes grow and compared it to how we should grow. In the story, Jesus is like the vine that gives the branches food, water and everything it needs to grow fruit. We are like the branches that grow out of the vine. When we're connected to Jesus, we'll produce fruit, too. Now, we won't grow actual fruit but we'll grow the fruits of the Spirit like love, joy, and patience. But, if we disconnect from Jesus, we won't be able to produce fruit and we'll eventually be like a dead branch. So, kids, remember to stay connected to Jesus so you can produce fruit that honors God.

### Classroom Agenda

1. (5 min) **PLAY: Let kids start working on Activity Page #1.**
2. (5 min) **WARM UP: What's your favorite fruit? What's your least favorite fruit? Name all the things you need to grow a healthy fruit tree.** (Tip: A fruit tree needs a strong root system and branches to grow healthy fruit. It also requires sunlight and water. We need Jesus to help us grow.)
3. (5 min) **PREVIEW: Write out the Big Idea, Memory Verse, and Key Question on a whiteboard.** Have the kids copy it down on Activity Page #1 (if applicable).
4. (20 min) **LARGE GROUP: Gather for songs and videos with other kids.** Then return to class to finish this guide.
5. (2 min) **RECAP: Read the Lesson Overview (see above).**
6. (3 min) **KQ: Answer the Key Question.** (Answer: **By reading our Bibles, praying and doing what honors him.** (In order to know how to honor God with our lives, we need to spend time with him. Reading the Bible helps us to know what's right and wrong. It tells us how to live and how to treat others. Prayer is our way to communicate with God where we can ask him for help. If we don't do these things, we won't be connected to God and our lives won't be honoring to him.)
  - **Bonus Questions:** What can we do to stay connected to Jesus? Why is reading the Bible important? **4th-5th** What are some things that honor God that you can start doing this week?
7. (5 min) **EXPLORE: Read 1 John 4:9-11. How did Jesus show how much he loves us? How can you show love for your friends and siblings?** (Answer: Jesus showed his love for us by dying for our sins so we could have a relationship with God. And, because of Jesus' sacrifice, we can live in heaven some day, too. Jesus wants us to love others, too. We don't have to die for them, but we should do things to serve them and to be kind. We should treat others the way we want to be treated. )
8. (10 min) **PLAY: Choose a group activity from Activity Page #2.**
9. (5 min) **CLOSE: Share prayer requests and pray as a class.** Encourage kids to use the Family Guide at home with their parents - and remind them to go online to [pursueGOD.org/kids](http://pursueGOD.org/kids) to find this week's lesson video.

**Big Idea**

*If we stay connected to Jesus, we'll produce fruit*

**Key Question**

*How do we stay connected to Jesus?*

**Memory Verse**

*John 15:5 "Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing."*

**Teacher instructions:** Choose an activity for your classroom.

## OPTION 1: FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT JEOPARDY

### Instructions:

- Divide the class into two teams. Give each team a bell or ringer.
- Ask a question from below. First team to ring in gets a chance to answer. If correct, they get a point. If wrong, the other team gets a chance to answer for a bonus point.
- Team with the most points, wins.

### Questions:

1. Who is the vine? (Jesus)
2. What fruit did Jesus use to tell a story? (grapes)

3. What is the Big Idea today? (see board)
4. How did Jesus show his love for us? (died on cross)
5. From what book is our memory verse found? (John)
6. Name a fruit of the Spirit. (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, faithfulness, self control)
7. Who are the branches in Jesus' story? (us)
8. Name one way we can stay connected to Jesus? (Read Bible, pray, obey)
9. What book is full of God's truth? (Bible)
10. Where did Jesus die for us? (cross)

**Supplies needed:** Bells or Ringers

## OPTION 2: FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT FLIP BOOK CRAFT

### Instructions:

- Give each kid a Fruit of the Spirit template (page 5). Have them cut out each square and color each one.
- Then have them stack the fruits together and have them punch a hole in the top left corner using a hole punch.
- Then, give each kid a piece of yarn and have them loop it through the holes and tie a knot to hold it together.
- As they work, remind them that these are the fruits Jesus wants them to grow in their lives.

**Supplies needed:** Fruits of the Spirit template (pg. 5, 1 per kid), Scissors, Crayons, Hole punch, Yarn (cut into 8 in pieces, 1 per kid)

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## Memory Verse

**John 15:5** Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing.

Jesus starts by saying he is like the grapevine, and his father is the gardener. The gardener's job is to cut off the branches that are dead and help every branch that is producing fruit to produce even more.

Then Jesus tells the people that they are like the branches. They can't be healthy if they aren't connected to the vine. In other words, if they aren't connected to Jesus, they can't live a life that honors him. And, like we learned about grapes, if they aren't connected to the vine they will eventually die.

## Jesus Is the \_\_\_\_\_ and We Are the \_\_\_\_\_

Jesus said in the story that he is the vine and that we are the branches. This means that we need Jesus in order to grow. Like we said before, the branches grow on the vine. If there is no vine, then the branches can't grow and produce fruit. So, if we don't have Jesus, then we don't grow.

## If We Stay Connected to \_\_\_\_\_, We'll Produce Fruit

This doesn't mean that one day you are suddenly going to sprout apples and oranges out of your belly. We aren't talking about that kind of fruit! We are talking about the fruits of the spirit. Things like kindness, gentleness, patience, and self control. These things are important to God. Memory verse!

**John 15:5** Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing.

## The First Fruit of Followers of Jesus Is \_\_\_\_\_

Answers: *Vine, Branches, Jesus, Love* Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

## Questions:

1. What's your favorite fruit? What's your least favorite fruit? Name all the things you need to grow a healthy fruit tree.
2. Who is the vine? Who are the branches?
3. What are all of the fruits of the Spirit? (See *Galatians 5:22-23*)
4. Read *1 John 4:9-11*. How did Jesus show how much he loves us? How can you show love for your friends and siblings?
5. How will you apply this lesson to your life this week?

Instructions: Color the picture.

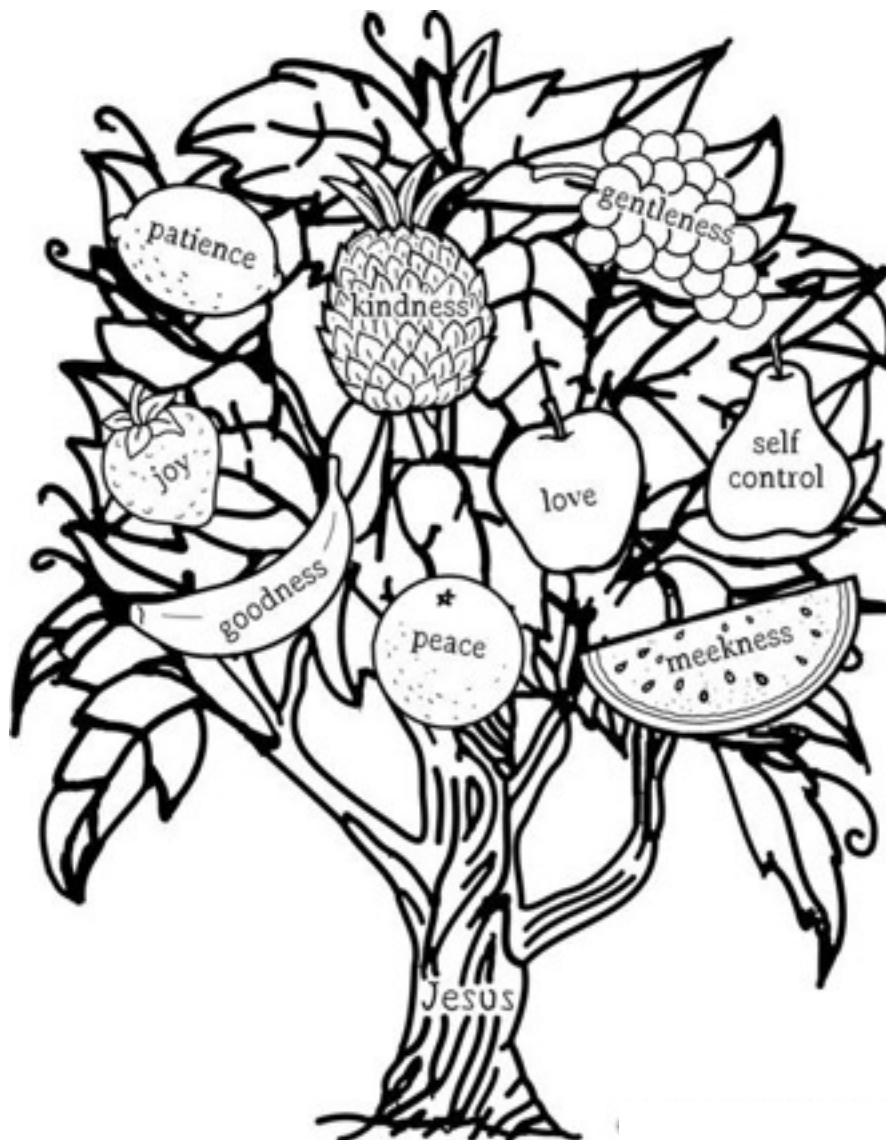
IF WE STAY  
CONNECTED TO  
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PRODUCE FRUIT

**Key Question**

How do we stay connected to Jesus?

**Memory Verse**

*John 15:5 "Yes, I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who remain in me, and I in them, will produce much fruit. For apart from me you can do nothing."*



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<p>Love</p> 	<p>Joy</p> 	 <p>Patience</p>
<p>patience</p> 	 <p>Kindness</p>	<p>Goodness</p> 
<p>Faithfulness</p> 	 <p>Gentleness</p>	