

# Fruit of the Spirit

Everyone has their favorite fruit, right? Some people are big fans of apples. Some people like citrus fruits like oranges and grapefruit and tangerines. Some like berries - strawberries, blackberries, raspberries, you name it. Some like exotic fruits like kiwi and pineapple. With so many choices and so many people in the world, there's a fruit out there for just about every set of taste buds.

We're going to talk about a lot of fruit, and I hope we'll be talking about your favorite. Today, we're talking about a fruit that can do just about anything. This fruit can be a part of any meal. It can be a snack, or it can be dessert. It can be chopped, mashed, fried, or baked. It can be mixed into bread or pancakes or muffins. It can be blended into a drink, or frozen into ice cream. Or, it can simply be enjoyed the way God made it.

Can you guess what it is? It's a banana. There's no wrong way to eat a banana. Personally, I like mine in bread & muffins. Bananas are sweet and healthy, and just about everyone loves them. They're perfect as a side at breakfast or as the main ingredient in your favorite pancakes. They go great with a peanut butter sandwich at lunch, and they can make a nice side dish at dinner. And when it comes to dessert, who doesn't love a banana split?

There's a famous passage in the Bible about fruit I want to share with you today. This fruit reminds me of bananas because like bananas, this fruit can do so many things. This fruit can help us make good choices. It can help us learn to treat others better. It can keep us from sin, and it can focus our mind on Jesus. I'm not talking about just one fruit, but nine fruits. Paul calls them the Fruit of the Spirit.

He says in **GALATIANS 5:22-23** **“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness,**

**faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.”**

The Spirit Paul talks about here is the Holy Spirit. It is part of the Trinity with God the Father and Jesus, God the Son. When we accept Jesus as our Savior, God sends the Holy Spirit to live in our hearts. The Holy Spirit gives us guidance so that we can live a life that is holy and pleasing to God.

When Paul talks about the Fruit of the Spirit, he means the fruits that grow in our lives. When we are following Christ and striving to serve others, people see these “fruits” in us.

The Fruits of the Spirit are love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. If we are living by the Spirit, all of these things will be evident in our lives. We will be more loving toward God and others. We will be patient, slow to get angry or lash out. We will be kind and tender towards other people.

The Fruits of the Spirit are more versatile than even the banana. We can use them every day. In every situation, the Fruits of the Spirit are the recipe for pleasing God.

God wants us to love others. He wants us to love Him, and He wants us to share His love with the world. That’s why the first fruit is **love**.

God also wants us to have **joy**. Joy is more than an emotion like happiness. Joy is knowing that no matter what happens, good or bad, God is in control. Even when we are sad, we can have joy, knowing that God is looking out for us.

**Peace** is something we can have when life is going crazy. It’s also something we can share. We can bring peace to bad situations by doing good and loving others.

**Patience** is something we all need more of! Patience means not just waiting, but trusting God is working all things out for our good.

**Kindness, goodness, and gentleness** are the way we treat others. God wants us to be kind and loving toward others, doing good where it is needed.

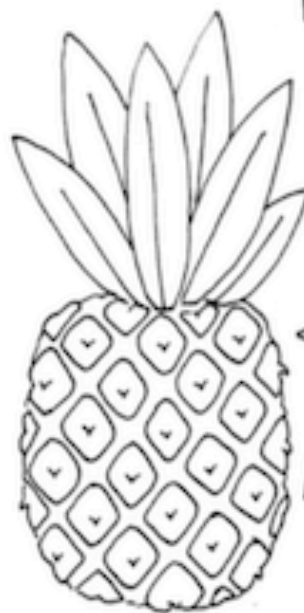
**Faithfulness** means being true to God, true to our loved ones, and true to our friends.

And **self-control** means learning to control our emotions and actions. We don't react in anger. We think before we speak. We consider our words carefully. We resist temptation to sin, and we do the right thing.

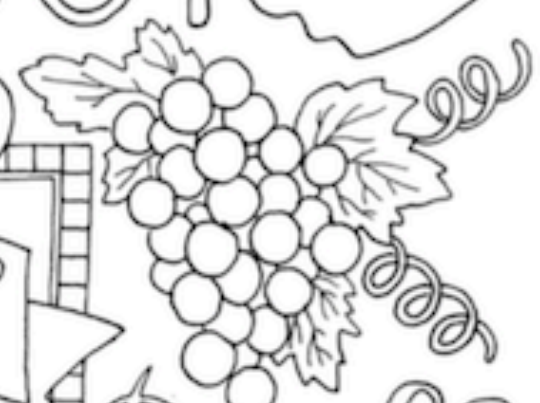
When we give our heart to Jesus and really let Him take control, the Fruit of the Spirit will grow in our lives. People will see Jesus in us through those fruits, and they will want Jesus for themselves. The Fruit of the Spirit can help us make a difference in this world. Now that's great living! (Don't forget - memorize the Fruits of the Spirit to earn some Kingdom Cash!)



LOVE JOY

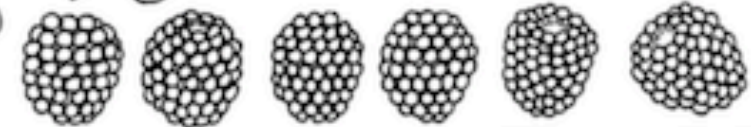


the  
Fruit  
of the  
Spirit

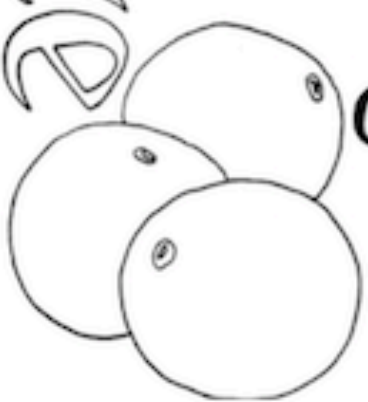


PATIENCE

kindness



FAITHFULNESS



gentleness



SELF-CONTROL

# Fruit of the Spirit



Unscramble the words and write them in the corresponding blanks. Then take the letters in the circles and arrange them to find the solution to the puzzle.

EECAP

\_\_\_\_ ○ \_\_\_\_\_

TAFIH

\_\_\_\_ ○ \_\_\_\_\_

SLGEEENSNT

\_\_\_\_\_ ○ \_\_\_\_\_

DESONSGO

\_\_\_\_\_ ○ \_\_\_\_\_

MEEPTNEARC

○ \_\_\_\_\_ ○ \_\_\_\_\_

EMESKNSE

\_\_\_\_\_ ○ \_\_\_\_\_

EVOL

\_\_\_\_\_ ○ \_\_\_\_\_

YJO

○ \_\_\_\_\_

GIGUNFRNFESLO

\_\_\_\_\_ ○ \_\_\_\_\_



*Fruit of the Spirit - How we get it.*



# FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT

*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faith, gentleness, and self-control. Against such things there is no law. – Galatians 5:22-23*



Let all that you do  
be done in love.  
– 1 Cor. 16:14



Don't be overcome  
by evil, but  
overcome evil with  
good. – Rom. 12:21



Blessed are the  
peacemakers,  
for they shall be  
called children of  
God. – Matt. 5:9



Now faith is  
assurance of things  
hoped for, proof of  
things not seen.  
– Heb. 11:1



Rejoice in the Lord  
always! Again I will  
say, "Rejoice!"  
– Phil. 4:4



A gentle answer  
turns away wrath,  
but a harsh word  
stirs up anger.  
– Prov. 15:1



But if we hope for  
that which we don't  
see, we wait for it  
with patience.  
– Rom. 8:25



Like a city that is  
broken down and  
without walls  
is a man whose  
spirit is without  
restraint.  
– Prov. 25:28



The merciful man  
does good to his  
own soul, but he  
who is cruel  
troubles his own  
flesh. – Prov. 11:17



For where your  
treasure is, there  
your heart will be  
also. – Matt. 6:21

# Bible Pathway Adventures

WORD SEARCH



## FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

P E A C E L B O G X L R M G I K H P X S  
U L O W T F L T O I K H U K J E R T U M  
I M P D P G N Y G K Y V M H O U F R T C  
K T A K C J O V Q V A T C P Y T A Z M N  
P I T D S K T O W X P B D J W D I T U F  
B I I R X Y K Z D A F L H I E Q T S K S  
U T E U M P I G E N J Y Z S B Z H D Q I  
Q P N Y O M X S X J E X U E X T F E H H  
W I C M U L G V D H S S M W L G U Z V Q  
N Q E V V P I Y U C G N S Q D A L C M D  
C T L A J N Y O N G N P Q V Y C N A A X  
N S S G E N T L E N E S S C Y K E V G X  
T B B N Z Z V T S G K L C D C W S M B I  
H M N N T O F F Z A H C Y Z V U S G L P  
D S E L F C O N T R O L Z J K N H Y E L  
Y R W H V G R D D Q T P W M W D C P T O  
N Q A M P H Q U O H V M P Y D E E Z T V  
I H W Z J M X L T D C A M C B V D W D E  
I Z K I N D N E S S T T A R C H R M P O  
J R I Q T K O P J X K T Q K K L B U Q N

PATIENCE  
FAITHFULNESS  
SELF-CONTROL  
KINDNESS  
GENTLENESS

PEACE  
JOY  
GOODNESS  
LOVE

