

Day Four

Bible Reading

I AM called to bear fruit; I AM part of God's family

John 15:16

You did not choose me; I chose you. And I gave you this work, to go and produce fruit. I want you to produce fruit that will last. Then the Father will give you anything you ask for in my name.

Ephesians 2:19

So now you non-Jews are not visitors or strangers. Now you are citizens together with God's holy people. You belong to God's family.



Bible video

Vine and branches Bible story

by Lifekids

<https://bit.ly/FRUIT>

Arrival activity

Wisdom Stone Collection

Concept: Collect wisdom like treasure.

Provide five small stones for each child and encourage them to write on each stone one wise word e.g. Kindness, Patience, Truth, Listening, Courage.

By the end they have a bag of wisdom treasures.

Modern day parables

***One Good Deed* by Terri Fields & Deborah Melmon**

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***The Smartest Giant in Town* by Julia Donaldson & Axel Scheffler**

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Challenges

Food Relay Race



I AM called to bear fruit (John 15:16).

Reflection: Your life is meant to produce good works that reflect God's love and truth.

I AM part of God's family (Ephesians 2:19).

Reflection: You belong to the household of God, with brothers and sisters in Christ.

Ideally, two or more teams. The team that wins each round gets the word. Teams should then be encouraged to come together to put all the words together to figure out the sentence representing that we are all one family, despite differences (being on different teams). The words should not be given in order, so tasks should be mixed up.

Items needed:

grapes, apples, grapefruits or similar food-related item (orange), peach, spoons, string, chopsticks; items to make an obstacle course e.g. chairs, books, cones, tables etc.

Word: *Called*

Each child has an apple on a string; they take it in turns to run up and try to take a bite of their apple without using their hands. They get 20 seconds to get a bite before running back to their team for the next person to try. The first to successfully take a bite gets to take the word back to their team. (This game has a risk of choking, therefore ensure that either each child spits out the apple before running back to their group, or that they have completely chewed it first.)

Word: *To*

Each team has a grapefruit or similar that they need to dribble around a make-shift course. Place items in the way that they kick the fruit between or go around. The first to successfully complete the course gets to take the word back to their team.

Word: *Bear*

Each team gets a spoon and a peach and must complete a course with obstacles they need to manoeuvre around, with a halfway point where they need to tip the peach onto the spoon of another team member, who will complete the course. The first to successfully complete the course gets to take the word back to their team.

Word: *Fruits*

Each team will share a pair of chopsticks. Each person in the team needs to move five grapes from one plate to another. Once one team member has completed the task, the next team member will take over moving the five grapes back, and so on until all team members have completed the task. The first team to successfully complete the task wins the word.

The teams are now encouraged to work together to figure out the sentence; representing that we are all one family, despite our differences (being on different teams).



Pipe cleaner family tree

You will need:

assorted pipe cleaners (various colours), cardboard or a sturdy base for support, scissors, craft glue or tape; (optional for decoration) beads or buttons, markers or pens (for labelling), coloured card

What you do:

Start by cutting a piece of cardboard into a heart shape to make a base.
 Take a long pipe cleaner and twist it to form the trunk of the tree.
 From the trunk, cut and attach additional pipe cleaners to form branches. Bend them at different angles for a realistic look.
 Use different coloured pipe cleaners for each family member, by twisting or making a loop or even a spiral, and attach them to the branches.
 Optional:
 Add beads or buttons to the pipe cleaners for a unique touch. If you want to label each branch of your family, use some card as a label and attach it to your tree.
 Glue or tape your tree to the heart base to help it to stand.

Recipe (cont.)

Before the chocolate sets, add candy eyes and chocolate sprinkles as hair or eyebrows.
 Let the marshmallow set before removing from the wax paper.

Stem

Bath bombs

You will need:

Dry ingredients – two cups bicarbonate of soda, one cup cream of tartar, OPTIONAL biodegradable glitter
 Wet ingredients – one or two tablespoons of olive oil or coconut oil or plain oil, food colouring, water in a spray bottle (a cleaned-out cleaning bottle works well), silicon ice cube trays, large mixing bowl

What you do:

Mix your bicarbonate of soda, tartar, oil, and food colouring until you have a colour you are happy with. Keep giving it a good stir. It will still look quite powdery. Give it two to three sprays of water. It will start to sizzle and fizz a little as the bicarbonate of soda reacts with the water. But start mixing it and it will feel a little more 'solid', a bit like wet sand. When you can indent your spoon on the mixture and leave a nice shape behind without it crumbling too much you are ready to transfer to your ice cube trays. You can add a couple of sprays of water, if it isn't lumpy enough yet.
 Using a SPRAY bottle really is important, as this disperses the water evenly and avoids the bicarb just sizzling away in one part of your bowl!
 When taking the bath bombs home, remember to tell the children that they take one to two days to dry out and get harder.

Recipe



Marshmallow families

You will need:

(white chocolate – melted), food colouring, large marshmallows, candy eyes, (chocolate sprinkles)

What you do:

Melt the white chocolate and add in your chosen colouring.
 Stand marshmallows up on a piece of wax paper.
 Use a spoon to spoon the melted chocolate over the marshmallows so that the chocolate drips off the top of the mallow.

Games



Fruit Salad



You will need:

a large space, a leader to shout out, music

What you do:

Music is played. Everyone has to run around until the music stops. When the music stops, the leader shouts out a fruit. The children have to respond in a freeze frame as follows:

GRAPES – groups of children huddled together

BANANA – lie down

APPLE – as short as you can

PEARS – two children together

You can add more to this list if you wish.

The last one to respond is out of the game. The last two people standing are the winners.

Prayers

Love ourselves



You will need:

either a large mirror or small hand held ones

What you do:

Ensure everyone can see themselves in a mirror. Guide the children through a prayer.

Look at your eyes: see the beautiful colours they are. Thank you, God, for our eyes.

Look at your ears: what wonderful shapes they are. Thank you, God, for our ears.

Look at your mouths, your teeth, your tongue: what wonderful sounds they make. Thank you, God, for our wonderful mouths.

And so on... You might also want to leave a period of silence so the children can look at themselves for a while and think of how they are made in God's image.

Say 'Amen' together at the end.

Wondering questions



I wonder...

- which fruit you might be and how that might help others see God's love
- how we treat friends and strangers like brothers and sisters
- what makes God's family special