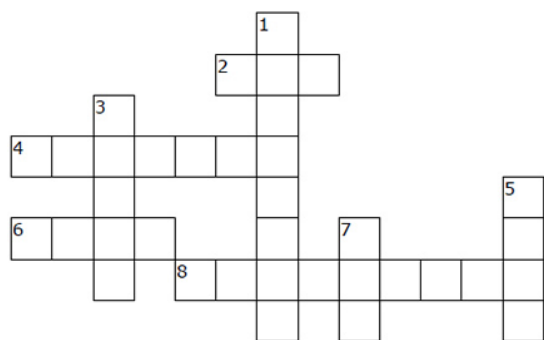


Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

2. The sweet, pear-shaped, fruit of a plant found in Bible lands.
4. A simple story teaching a moral or religious lesson.
6. The top layer of the earth's surface favorable to plant growth.
8. To spread a something on land or plants to help plants grow.

DOWN

1. An area of ground planted with vines and fruit trees.
3. The usually sweet-tasting part of a tree which can be eaten.
5. A large plant with a trunk, limbs, branches, and leaves.
7. To break up and move dirt using a shovel.

DIG	VINEYARD	TREE	PARABLE
FIG	FERTILIZE	SOIL	FRUIT



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Children's Worship Bulletin

Living a Fruitful Life

Luke 13:1-9

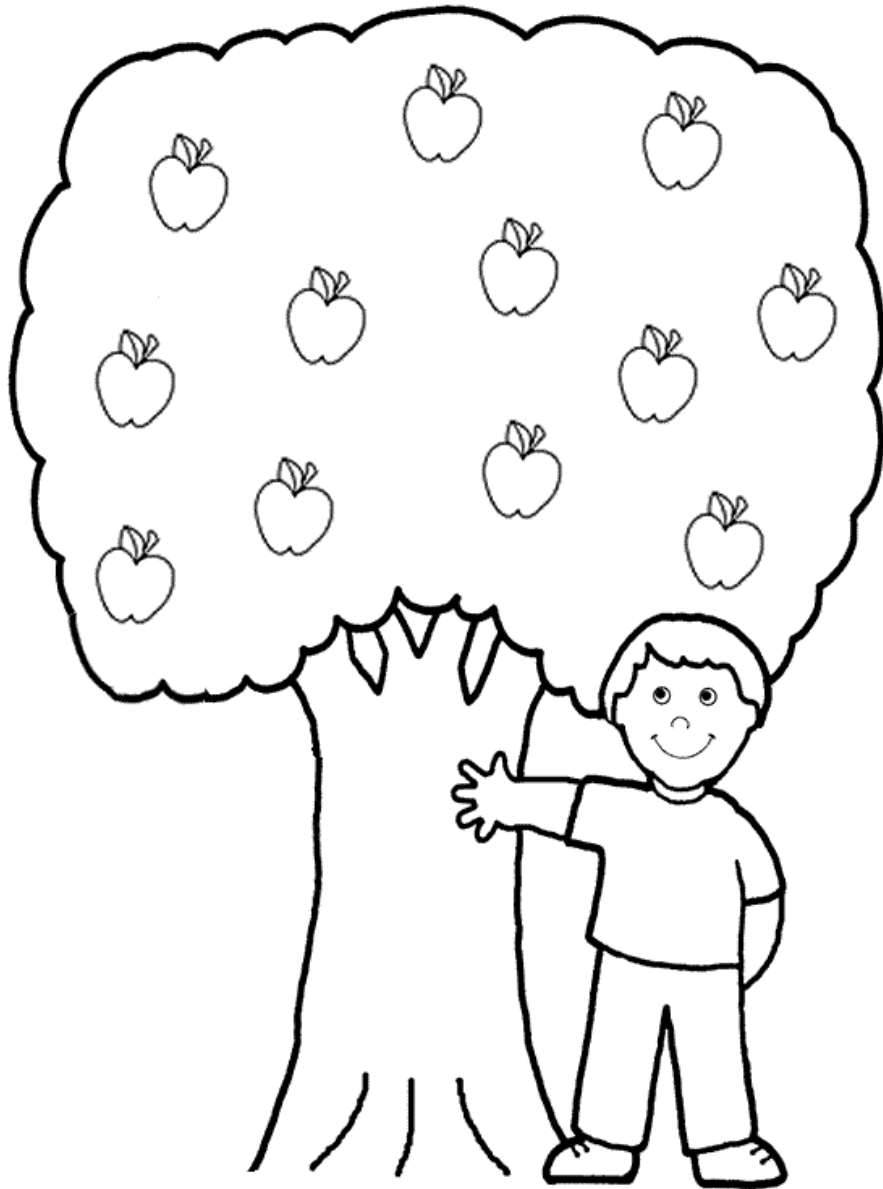
Word Search

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

LEAVE	PARABLE	FRUIT	LOOK	THREE
VINEYARD	MAN	SOIL	FERTILIZE	FIG
TOLD	TREE	DIG	FIND	DOWN
YEARS	USE	PLANTED	CUT	ALONE

Jericho Friends Meeting
www.jerichofriends.org
March 7, 2010

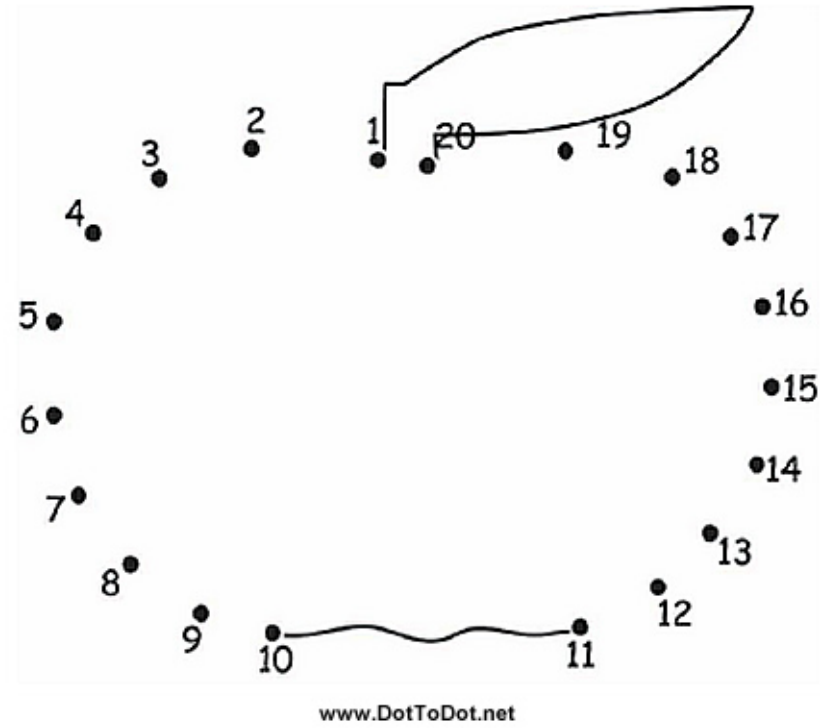
Color Me!



God wants us to bear good fruit!

Dot to Dot Puzzle

Connect the dots to complete the picture.



The Parable of the Fig Tree

" 'Sir,' the man replied, 'leave it alone for one more year, and I'll dig around it and fertilize it. If it bears fruit next year, fine! If not, then cut it down.' "

Luke 13:8-9 (NIV)

Enter the correct words in the boxes based on the shape of the letters.



1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

parable	tree	vineyard	soil
fig	planted	fruit	fertilize

Title: Living a Fruitful Life

Object: A bowl full of different kinds of fruit.

Scripture: ...*"A man had a fig tree, planted in his vineyard, and he went to look for fruit on it, but did not find any. So he said to the man who took care of the vineyard, 'For three years now I've been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and haven't found any. Cut it down! Why should it use up the soil?' "* *" 'Sir,' the man replied, 'leave it alone for one more year, and I'll dig around it and fertilize it. If it bears fruit next year, fine! If not, then cut it down.' "* Luke 13:6-9 (NIV)

Look what I have... apples, oranges, peaches, and bananas. Yum! Yum! I think I'll have a delicious snack right now. How about you? Would you like to join me? Do you know what I think would be great? I think it would be great to have a lot a fruit trees in your yard so that any time you wanted a snack, you could just go out and pick a piece of fruit off of the tree. But what if you had an fruit tree in your yard that never had any fruit on it? It wouldn't be good for anything except shade, would it?

In our Bible lesson today, Jesus told a story about a man who planted a fig tree in his garden. After some time had passed, he went to look for some fruit on the tree, but there was none. Year after year he watched the tree, but the tree never produced any fruit. Finally, the man went to the gardener who took care of the tree and said to him, "For three years I have been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and haven't found any. Cut it down! It is just taking up space in the garden."

The gardener answered, "Please, sir, give it one more chance. Leave it for another year. I will give it special attention. I will dig around the tree and give it plenty of fertilizer. If the tree produces fruit next year, great, if not, then you can cut it down."

In telling this story, Jesus was really talking about us and about God. God has "planted" us here on this earth and he expects us to produce good fruit in our life. What kind of fruit does he expect? When He looks at the way we live our life, he wants to see things like love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, and gentleness. There are times when he is disappointed in what he sees, but he is willing to give us another chance.

What can we do to help us produce the kind of fruit that God expects? We can worship regularly, read God's Word, and pray.

Those things will help us to live a fruitful life. Let's pray right now and ask God to help us.

Heavenly Father, we know that you expect good things from your children. Help us live a life that will be pleasing to you. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

BIBLE VERSE RELAY: Divide children into two teams. Each team member will take turns running to the Bible verse FRUIT BASKET and taking one strip of words from our verse today and run quicking back to the team and continue to run for the verse strip of words until all the strips of paper for the Bible verse are gone. The team will then quickly try to gather in a circle and put the Bible verse together on the floor - the first team to get the Bible verse in the correct order will win the game and will READ THE VERSE out loud.

FRUIT TREE RELAY: Draw fruit out of construction paper before class and hide around a designated area. There will need to be one fruit of each kind for each team. Divide class into teams. When the teacher says -- FIND THE BANANA -- the entire team can hunt for one banana and run back to their starting area. Continue with finding fruits such as FIND THE APPLE, FIND THE ORANGE, FIND THE MANGO, FIND THE GRAPES, etc. After each "fruit find", the team will return. Each fruit can have a word from our Bible lesson today and children can quickly tape their fruit to a poster board tree that has been made for each team after their fruit has been found. Children will enjoy watching their FRUIT TREE get bigger and bigger with all the fruits that they are finding.

PLANT A TREE: If it is possible, buy a very small tree or several and let children dig the hole, water, fertilize and plant at least one tree together. Let children put their name on a plastic stake in the ground by the tree/s.

FRUIT PUZZLES: Let children draw a large piece of fruit on a piece of construction paper. Cut around the outside tracing of the fruit. Write fruits of the Spirit on their fruit (such as love, joy, peace, etc). Then children will cut their puzzle into 5-10 pieces (depending on age of children... older children could cut puzzle into more pieces) and pass their puzzle pieces to the next child to that child put the puzzle together. Children will enjoy watching another child put their puzzle together. If time allows, let children

put their own puzzle together once again and glue to a piece of construction paper.

BIBLE VERSE FRUIT CAKE: Give each child a piece of brown construction paper and cut 2 inches at an angle on each corner. Fold up and tape to form a box. Let children write parts of today's Bible verse on pieces of cut out and colored fruit pictures and place in the fruit "cake box". Children can carry this home and try to put Bible verse together or have a family member try to put the verse together from the FRUIT CAKE.

HIDDEN FRUITY PUZZLE: Write today's Bible verse on a piece of poster board. Cover the words with pictures of fruit from a magazine or fruit that the teacher has drawn and cut out. Let children call out a fruit to be taken off the board and try to say the Bible verse. If unable to recite the verse, then another child can ask for a fruit to be removed from the board... and continue until the children can read all of the verse.

FRUIT BEARING CHRISTIANS: Divide the children into groups of 2. Give each group a piece of paper that they can try to draw a person (looking at each other for ideas of hair, face, clothes, etc) and cut the outline of the "person". Have children write on their "drawn person", FRUIT BEARING CHRISTIAN and write words that are bearing fruit such as WORSHIP REGULARLY, READ GOD'S WORD, PRAY, SHARE JESUS WITH OTHERS, etc. Tape the drawn "people" to the classroom wall.

KID FRUITY TREES: (Teacher -- have a CAMERA ready!!!). Let each child draw a fruit and write a FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT on their fruit. Cut the fruit out and hang by a string or yarn. Then have all the children in groups of 4 or 5, stand behind each other and stretch out their arms and hang their FRUIT on an arm -- take a picture of each group as FRUITY KID TREES!! (of course the pictures will need to be place on a classroom wall or a church bulletin board for all to enjoy!)

SING A SONG: "FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT"

SHARE A FRUITY SNACK: Have samples of fresh fruit for children to enjoy, or dried fruit or fruity candy snacks. Have children take turns naming the fruit of the Spirit, or go around in a circle, saying the fruits of the Spirit as quickly as they can and go faster and faster!!!