CROSSKIDS DEVOTIONS

FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT

June 1st-7th

THIS MONTH'S MEMORY VERSE

BUT THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT IS LOVE, JOY, PEACE, PATIENCE, KINDNESS, GOODNESS, FAITHFULNESS, GENTLENESS, SELF-CONTROL; AGAINST SUCH THINGS THERE IS NO LAW.

GALATIANS 5:22-23

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT - LOVE

Read: Story of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:26-37)

TALK

- Who showed Jesus' love in this story?
- Why do you think some of the characters ignored the man who needed help?
- How can we love our neighbor?

THINK

Jesus told the story of the Good Samaritan when someone asked him about loving their neighbor! Sometimes, it is easy to ignore people who need to be loved when we are busy or if it makes us uncomfortable. Have you ever done this? We need to ask Jesus to GROW His love in our hearts - so we can love the people around us even when it isn't easy!

PRAY

As a family, pray and ask Jesus to help His love grow in your hearts! Ask Him to show you anyone that you need to love better (it could even be someone in your own family!), and commit to doing it with His help!

DO

Brainstorm some ways you are going to show Jesus' love to the person you have committed to loving better.

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT - JOY

Read: Paul & Silas in Prison (Acts 16:16-34)

TALK

- How did Paul and Silas show joy even in a hard time?
- Did their joy help others? How?
- For older kids: Is there a difference between joy & happiness? What is it?

THINK

Paul & Silas were thrown into prison for doing the right thing! They could have chosen to be scared, to sulk, or to just wait to see what happens. They didn't do any of those things though - instead, they chose to sing and praise God! The only way they could do that was because they had God's JOY in their hearts. JOY doesn't come because everything in our lives is good, but because we know that God has everything under control! No matter what, we can have God's joy!

PRAY

As a family, there may be things that are keeping you from experiencing God's JOY! Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to grow the fruit of joy in your heart - even when it's hard.

DO

It's not always easy to have JOY, but we can do things that help! This week, do something that makes your family feel JOY. Here are some ideas:

- Blast a worship playlist and have a dance party!
- Blow bubbles! For every bubble that pops, name one thing you're thankful for. Let the joy grow.

Find a good joke book or website and tell jokes until everyone in your family is laughing! Thank God for His gift of joy!

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT - PEACE

Read: Jesus Calms the Storm (Mark 4:35-41)

TALK

- How do you think the disciples felt in the storm?
- What do you think it would have been like to see the waves and wind listen to Jesus?
- Do you ever feel like your life is "stormy?" Is there somewhere you need God's peace right now?

THINK

Jesus' disciples faced a humongous storm! They couldn't control it or stop it, but Jesus could. He stopped the storm by yelling "Peace! Be still!" Sometimes in our lives, we face storms. They aren't necessarily wind or waves, but things that are hard - that make us feel sad, scared or unsure. Even when we face hard times, we can ask God for His peace! His peace helps us know that even when things are hard, He is with us. We can always trust God!

PRAY

Have each member of your family share one thing that is causing you to feel sad, scared or worried. Pray and ask God to give you PEACE even when you don't know what will happen!

DO

It's not always easy to have peace. This week, take your family into nature. It can be a quick walk through a park, a hike, or an evening around a campfire. As you spend time together, take a couple of minutes to be quiet and look around you! Even when life is hard and the world is busy, nature is peaceful! Remind each other that God is always willing to give us His peace - no matter if we're quiet in nature or in the busy of life!!

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT - PATIENCE

Read: Abraham & Sarah (Genesis 17:1-6, 17, Genesis 21:1-5)

TALK

- Do you think Abraham & Sarah were patient? Why? Why not?
- How do you think you would have felt waiting all that time to have a son?
- Do you ever find it hard to wait? How can God help you?

THINK

Abraham and Sarah waited for many years before they had their son, Isaac. There must have been times they wondered if God's promise would ever come true! There are a lot of times in our lives when we need to be patient. We might be waiting for a special vacation, for school to reopen, or just to be old enough to do something. Maybe we are waiting for something more serious - like for God to answer a prayer! No matter what we're waiting for, it's never easy! Thankfully, the Bible tells us the Holy Spirit can help us to be patient - and trust God while we wait.

PRAY

As a family, ask God to help you be PATIENT with one another this week. If you need to ask God to forgive you for not being patient, do that too!

DO

Waiting is never easy - but the results are often worth the wait! This week, do something that requires WAITING - but has a great result in the end. Here are some ideas:

- Make a recipe for something yummy from scratch (for example, cookies, muffins or pizza!) as a family. Set the timer on the stove, and wait. As you smell the delicious aromas, talk about why being patient matters!
- Paint something together - a canvas, rocks to hide in your neighborhood, or something in your backyard. As you wait for paint to dry, talk about why waiting is hard - and how God can help us wait.

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT - KINDNESS

Read: Friends Bring A Man to Jesus (Luke 5:17-26)

TALK

- How did the friends show kindness to the man on the mat?
- Do you think Jesus was happy with the friends? Why?
- How can you show kindness to your friends and family?

THINK

You may have heard this story of four men cutting a hole in the roof before, but have you ever thought about the way they showed kindness to their friend? Think about it! Their friend couldn't walk or get to Jesus, but they worked extra hard to make a way for Him to get there. They knew they needed to help their friend and be kind. The Holy Spirit wants to help us be kind to people around us - family, friends and even those who aren't kind to us! Let's ask Him to help us be kind this week!

PRAY

Think about a time when you have been unkind this week. Ask Jesus to forgive you, and then to help you show kindness!

DO

It's a week to show random acts of kindness! Take time out of your busy schedule this week to show small but significant acts of kindness as a family. Here are some ideas:

- Pay for the drink or meal of the person behind you on your take out or coffee run this week.
- Buy simple treats like ice cream bars, small tubes of bubbles, or sidewalk chalk, and give them out as a family at your local park!
- Paint some rocks with kind messages and place them around your neighborhood for strangers to find!
- Let others go fist! Let your sibling, friend. parents, etc. go first to show kindness!