

3/17 - Games

Lesson 30: The Carmen Miranda Effect



Concept

God gives us the Holy Spirit to produce fruit in us

Goals

- Understand we can't produce "fruit" on our own.
- Understand God gives us the Holy Spirit to produce fruit and help us live as we should.
- Know what the fruit of the spirit is.

Memory Verse

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires"

Galatians 5:22-24.

Bible Exploration

Feeding of the 5000: Matthew 14:13-21

Key Verse: Philipians 2:13

Response

Adventurers will be encouraged to ask the Holy Spirit to control their lives and produce His fruit in them.

Music Time

Lead adventurers in 2-5 songs from music CD included in the Adventure Club Kit.

Setting the Compass

Stage: Ed's office. Ed is fiddling with a **robot**. The robot does what Ed commands: hops, turns around, etc. (*Get an adventurer or guide to be the robot*)

The Carmen Miranda Effect

Cast: **Apocalypse; Ed Venture**

APOC — What'cha doing there, Eddy boy?

ED — (*Looking down his glass at the phrase, Eddy boy*) Well, Apoc. I'm completing the soldering on these circuit boards and programming the last of my control commands, so my robot will do what I command of it.

APOC — Wow — he must be happy!

ED — *(With a puzzled look)* Robots aren't happy. They have no feelings. They do what they're told. Watch. *(Ed commands robot to hop, touch top of head, etc)*

APOC — Oh, he does only what you say! Boy, I'm glad God doesn't treat us like that!

ED — How do you mean?

APOC — Well, as Christians, we have free will to do or not do things. God has given us the Holy Spirit to live in us. He's sort of command center, but we have a choice to do and say what we want.

ED — Whoa! That could be dangerous, if I programmed a "free will" program into my robot who knows what would happen?! He could knock over my computer, sit on my dinner - you know how much I like my dinners - he might hop when I want him to walk! How do we judge, as Christians, whether or not we are doing what God and the Holy Spirit commands?

APOC — That's a great questions, Ed. God, through the Holy Spirit, will produce "fruit" in our lives. That is evidence that we belong to Him.

ED — Evidence. Now you're talking concepts I understand. What kind of evidence?

APOC — In Galatians 5:22 the Bible tells us the fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

ED — Wow! Them's a lot of bananas — get it? Bananas — fruit? Oh, never mind.

APOC — The more we are kind and loving and patient and good to others the more it shows we are controlled by the Holy Spirit.

ED — I want to do those things, but sometimes it's hard.

APOC — Yes, especially if someone is unkind to you. But the more fruit there is in your life, the more evidence you're filled and controlled by the Holy Spirit.

ED — And you act that way because you want to! Not because you're a robot!

APOC — *(In a robot voice)* That is right.

(Ed looks surprised)

APOC — You're right. It's just a joke! Let's check out the reality glasses and go back to a hillside where a young boy showed kindness , a fruit of the spirit.

ED — *(Wearing reality glasses, looking over the adventurers)* There he is! *(Ed points to the back of the room)*

APOC — Yes, I see him! He's offering his lunch of bread and fish to the disciples.

ED — What a nice boy!

APOC — What a good boy. He doesn't look wealthy, but he's willing to share what he has. I guess the things Jesus had been teaching that afternoon really spoke to the boy's heart. We're seeing kindness, the fruit of the spirit in action.

ED — What happens next?

APOC — Because of that boy's kindness, Jesus performed a miracle.

ED — What did he do?

APOC — You see all these people? (*Apoc points his finger through the crowd*) See that one there, and those way over there?

ED — Yes.

APOC — Jesus has been teaching them for a long time and it's past time to eat. The people are very hungry.

ED — Why don't they go to Portillo's? I like Portillos! Mmm — those hot dogs, beef, sausage and the chocolate cake! (*Ed gets a little dreamy eyed*)

APOC — Ed, there was no Portillo's in Jesus' day. There were no fast food places, no stores. They're out in the country!

ED — Oh!

APOC — Jesus wants to take care of their hunger now. He cares about our every need. So because of that boy's kindness, Jesus performs a miracle and feeds 5,000 people!

ED — Jesus does take care of us, and the fruit produce in our lives by the Holy Spirit God gives us helps us to be more Christ-like and helps others in return.

APOC — Ed, those reality glasses really help you see things a lot clearer.

EMCEE — Does a tree have to try really hard to produce fruit? No, it just does what it was created to do. Of course, it needs good roots and sun and rain and nourishment from the soil. But God provides all that for the tree. God also provides the Holy Spirit to produce fruit in us. We need to make sure we get our nourishment by reading the Bible, praying, going to church and spending time with our Christian friends. You can try just so much to be kind and patient, but you really need the Holy Spirit to make you that way. Isn't it neat to know God helps us like that? Let's pray and thank Him for the Holy Spirit.

Close in prayer.

Small Group Activities

Bible Discovery Questions:

- 1) How are people different than robots? (Robots are controlled by others, people have free will - can do as they please)
- 2) If we are Christians, who have we given control of our lives to? (God/ Holy Spirit)
- 3) How can we tell if the Holy Spirit is in charge of our lives or if we are? (By how we act — are we loving, joyful, kind, etc)
- 4) What is the fruit of the spirit? (Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control)
- 5) What did a young boy in the Bible do that displayed a fruit of the spirit? (Shared his lunch)
- 6) What "fruit" did this display? (love, kindness)
- 7) What was Jesus able to do because of that boy's act of kindness? (Perform a miracle and feed 5,000 people with it)
- 8) What can you do to help you show more of the fruit of the spirit? (Ask the Holy Spirit to control you and produce His fruit in you)

Memory Verse:

Galatians 5:22-26

Preschool: "The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control."

Primary: "The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law."

Middler/Junior: "The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires."

Activity Page:

Follow the directions on the suggested activity page.

Additional Exploration:

- ✓ Look up and read Philipians 2:13. Who is working in your life? What does it mean that God works in you "to will and to act?" (That He gives you the desire and the ability to obey Him). What special gift does God give us to help us? (The Holy Spirit) What can you do when you don't feel like acting the way God wants you to?
- ✓ Play "Simon Says." Let adventurers take turns being leader. When you've finished playing, ask them these questions: How did it feel to be the leader? How did it feel to be a player? Who was in control of the game? We need to let the Holy Spirit be "Simon" in our lives and help us know how to live. Let's pray and thank God for the Holy Spirit, and to help us to listen to Him.