



SMALL GROUP LEADER GUIDE

Goals / Week 5

LEADER PREP

BOTTOM LINE

The goal is to grow.

SCRIPTURE

Galatians 5:22-23 ESV;
Galatians 5:25 ESV

GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

To show students the importance of staying connected to God's Spirit might overwhelm your students. For those who are afraid to fail, it might look like a list of ways in which they'll never measure up. For those who view their faith as a bunch of rules, it might look like a long list of regulations. And for those who long to achieve, it might look like a list of things they need to do to stay in God's good graces. That's why reminding students of the fact that faith is about freedom is especially important this week. It will help them see the fruit of the Spirit as the result of a life lived in freedom with God rather than an overwhelming to-do list in their faith.

THINK ABOUT THIS

Seeing a long list of the qualities that make up the fruit of God's Spirit might overwhelm your students. For those who are afraid to fail, it might look like a list of ways in which they'll never measure up. For those who view their faith as a bunch of rules, it might look like a long list of regulations. And for those who long to achieve, it might look like a list of things they need to do to stay in God's good graces. That's why reminding students of the fact that faith is about freedom is especially important this week. It will help them see the fruit of the Spirit as the result of a life lived in freedom with God rather than an overwhelming to-do list in their faith.

CONVERSATION GUIDE

JUST FOR FUN

What's the strangest fruit you've ever seen or eaten?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What did you spend the most time doing this week? Why?
2. On a scale of 1-10, how close are you to being who you want to be? (1 being not close at all and 10 being really close.)
3. What's one example of an area of life where middle schoolers might want to grow?
4. What's one thing that holds us back from growing?
5. **Read Galatians 5:22-23.** Which quality listed in the fruit of the Spirit is the most difficult for you?
6. Tell us about someone in your life who has demonstrated the fruit of the Spirit for you.
7. Which fruit of the Spirit do you need to grow more of in your life?
8. How might your family or friendships be different if you grew more of this quality?
9. How can you work on growing the right kind of fruit in your life a goal this week?

XP (EXPERIENCE)

Pass out the provided cards and ask your students to circle what fruit of the Spirit they'll work on this week and to explain their choices.

MY GOAL

WE ALL WANT TO BECOME THE KINDS OF PEOPLE THAT WE HOPE TO BE, BUT FEW OF US ACTUALLY PUT IN THE TIME, ENERGY, AND FOCUS INTO ACTUALLY BECOMING THAT TYPE OF PERSON. SO THIS WEEK, MAKE GROWING THE FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT YOUR GOAL. CIRCLE ONE QUALITY IN THE FRUIT OF GOD'S SPIRIT BELOW THAT YOU WILL WORK ON.

| | | |
|-------|----------|--------------|
| LOVE | PATIENCE | Faithfulness |
| JOY | KINDNESS | Gentleness |
| PEACE | GOODNESS | Self-control |

WRITE DOWN WHY YOU WANT TO GROW THAT AREA IN YOUR LIFE, FRIENDSHIPS, HOME, AND/OR FAMILY.

MY GOAL

WE ALL WANT TO BECOME THE KINDS OF PEOPLE THAT WE HOPE TO BE, BUT FEW OF US ACTUALLY PUT IN THE TIME, ENERGY, AND FOCUS INTO ACTUALLY BECOMING THAT TYPE OF PERSON. SO THIS WEEK, MAKE GROWING THE FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT YOUR GOAL. CIRCLE ONE QUALITY IN THE FRUIT OF GOD'S SPIRIT BELOW THAT YOU WILL WORK ON.

| | | |
|-------|----------|--------------|
| LOVE | PATIENCE | Faithfulness |
| JOY | KINDNESS | Gentleness |
| PEACE | GOODNESS | Self-control |

WRITE DOWN WHY YOU WANT TO GROW THAT AREA IN YOUR LIFE, FRIENDSHIPS, HOME, AND/OR FAMILY.

MY GOAL

WE ALL WANT TO BECOME THE KINDS OF PEOPLE THAT WE HOPE TO BE, BUT FEW OF US ACTUALLY PUT IN THE TIME, ENERGY, AND FOCUS INTO ACTUALLY BECOMING THAT TYPE OF PERSON. SO THIS WEEK, MAKE GROWING THE FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT YOUR GOAL. CIRCLE ONE QUALITY IN THE FRUIT OF GOD'S SPIRIT BELOW THAT YOU WILL WORK ON.

| | | |
|-------|----------|--------------|
| LOVE | PATIENCE | Faithfulness |
| JOY | KINDNESS | Gentleness |
| PEACE | GOODNESS | Self-control |

WRITE DOWN WHY YOU WANT TO GROW THAT AREA IN YOUR LIFE, FRIENDSHIPS, HOME, AND/OR FAMILY.

MY GOAL

WE ALL WANT TO BECOME THE KINDS OF PEOPLE THAT WE HOPE TO BE, BUT FEW OF US ACTUALLY PUT IN THE TIME, ENERGY, AND FOCUS INTO ACTUALLY BECOMING THAT TYPE OF PERSON. SO THIS WEEK, MAKE GROWING THE FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT YOUR GOAL. CIRCLE ONE QUALITY IN THE FRUIT OF GOD'S SPIRIT BELOW THAT YOU WILL WORK ON.

| | | |
|-------|----------|--------------|
| LOVE | PATIENCE | Faithfulness |
| JOY | KINDNESS | Gentleness |
| PEACE | GOODNESS | Self-control |

WRITE DOWN WHY YOU WANT TO GROW THAT AREA IN YOUR LIFE, FRIENDSHIPS, HOME, AND/OR FAMILY.