

SMALL GROUP RESOURCE

Love comes first.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Galatians 5:22,23

1 John 4:6-11

Acts 4:34, 35

Acts 6:1-7

Matthew 5:43-47

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Why is love listed first in the fruit of the Spirit?

The “love” in these questions is not family love or romantic love. The love we’ll be discussing is God’s love.

1 John 4:6-11

What do you think of when you think of God’s love?

What is John asking us to do when he says that we are to love one another?

Acts 4:34, 35

What were the new Christians doing and why were they doing it?

How would your unbelieving neighbors, friends, and family react if they really saw the church doing this?

Acts 6:1-7

What changed in the church to create this situation?

What did they do to restore love?

What could you do to become a more loving church?

PRAYER FOCUS:

Praise God for being love.

Agree with God about your lack of love.

Thank God for the love you receive from Him and others.

Ask God for a stronger sense of His love through the presence of the Holy Spirit.

FAMILY RESOURCE

Big Idea: Love comes first.

READ ACTS 4:32

How does this verse sound like your family, your neighborhood, your church?

How good are you at sharing?

Draw a picture of something you can share with others.

Draw a picture of something that others can share with you.

READ ACTS 4:34-35

How do you decide who you are going to help?

When was the last time you gave to meet someone's need?

As a family, plan together how you'll meet someone's need.

READ ACTS 6:1

What was the problem?

Why was the problem happening?

Walk through each room in your house while looking in a mirror.

What did you see? Why?

READ ACTS 6:2-6

How was the problem solved?

What type of people were needed to solve the problem?

Use each letter in WISDOM to begin a word that will help you show God's love.

READ ACTS 4:33 & 6:7

Why were people attracted to the church?

Put a heart on your door to remind yourself to show God's love to those you meet.

HOW ARE YOU GOING TO SHOW GOD'S LOVE THIS WEEK?

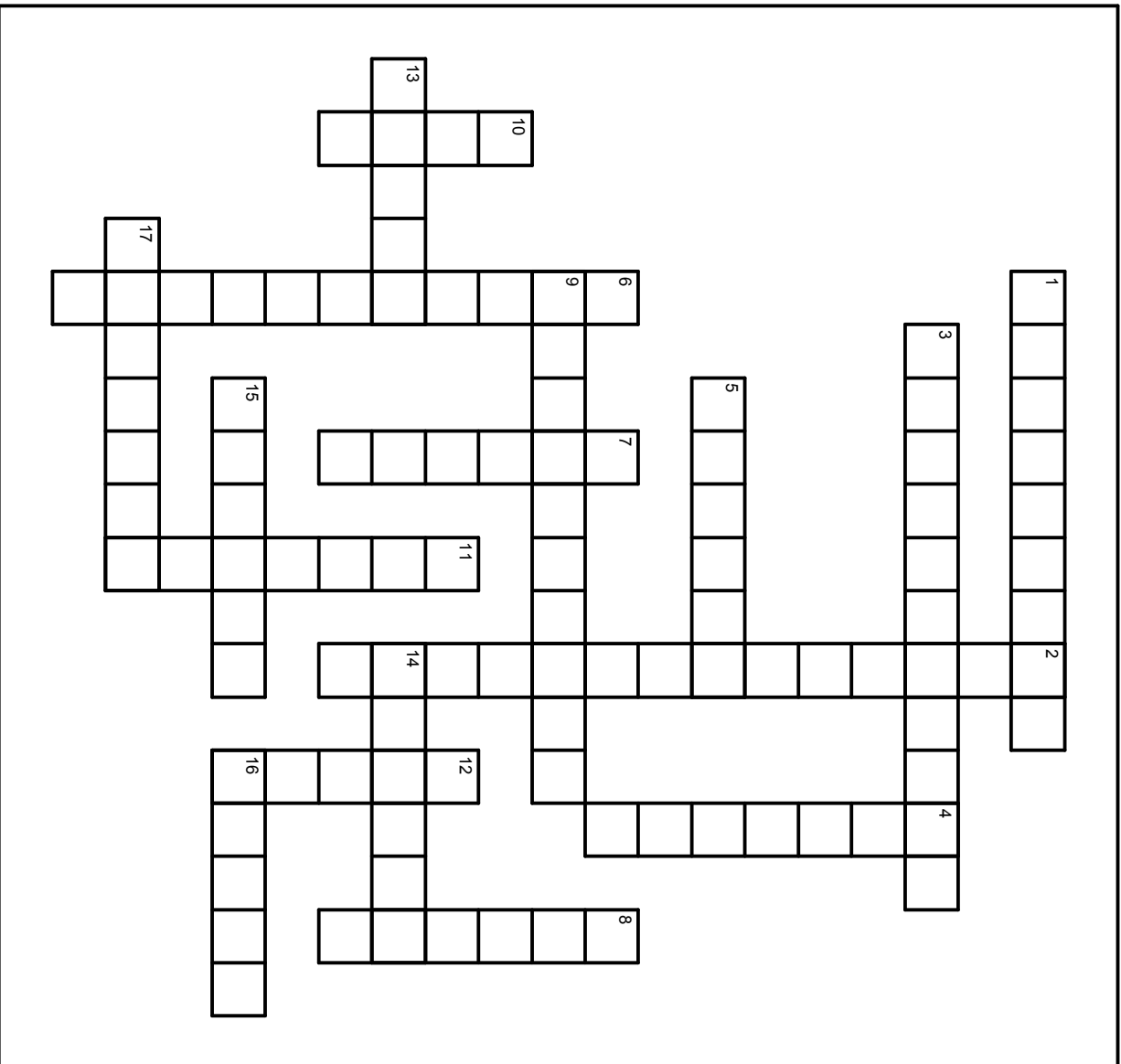
MEMORY VERSE:

But the fruit of the spirit is love, joy, peace, patience,

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Love Comes First



Across

1. those who trust in Jesus (Acts 4:32)
3. things you own (Acts 4:32)
5. their husbands have died (Acts 6:1)
9. getting larger (Acts 6:1)
13. strength (Acts 4:33)
14. 2x6 (Acts 6:2)
15. right thinking (Acts 6:3)
16. poor (Acts 4:34)
17. tell others (Acts 4:33)

Down

2. task (Acts 6:3)
4. ignore (Acts 6:2)
6. passed out (Acts 4:35)
7. talking to God (Acts 6:4)
8. used by all (Acts 6:32)
10. something you eat (Acts 6:1)
11. quickly (Acts 6:7)
12. 9-2 (Acts 6:3)

Love Comes First

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

responsibility wisdom power shared

increasing widows twelve food

neglect prayer believers rapidly

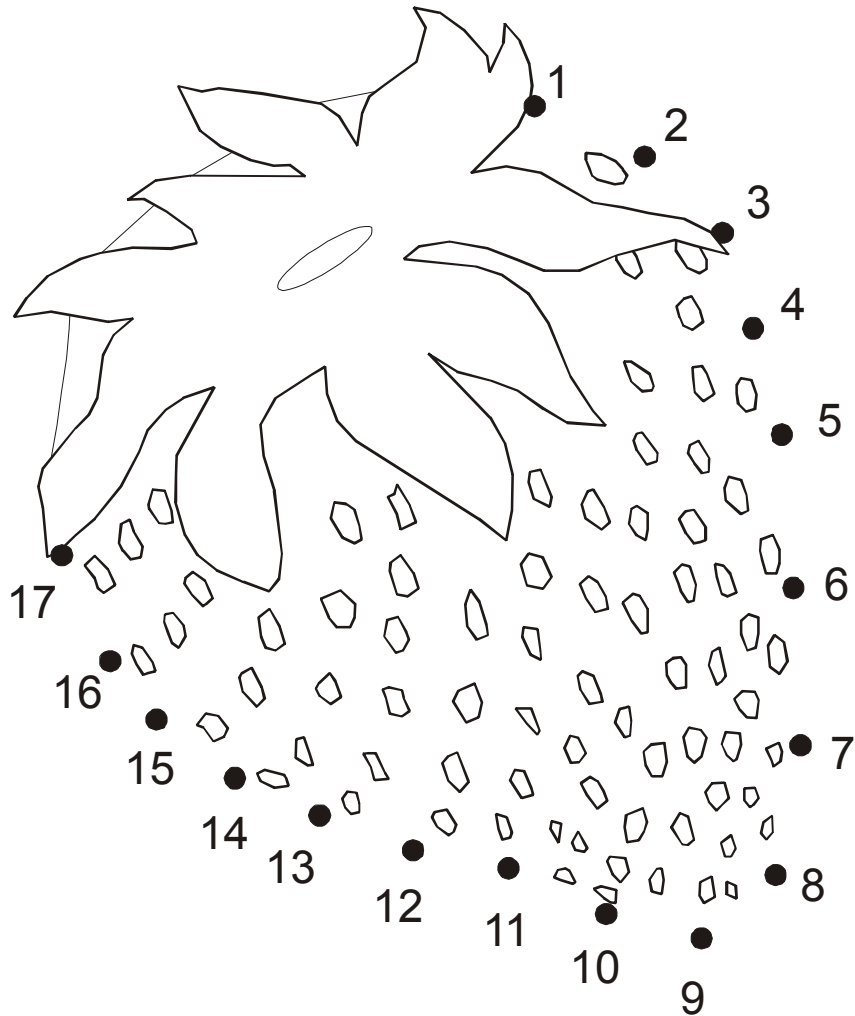
possessions testify distributed needy

seven

LOVE The strawberry represents love because it is shaped like a heart and is red. Strawberries taste good all the way through! There are no pits or skins, so you don't have to do a lot of work to enjoy a strawberry.

Eat some strawberries.

Better yet, SHARE them with someone else!



You'll find more learning resources
about the Fruit of the Spirit at
www.mygrandmatime.com

What two words are found in every verse?

(This makes a great Bible drill tool!)

1 Peter 4:8
Luke 16:13
Deuteronomy 13:6
John 15:12;
2 Thessalonians 1:3
2 Chronicles 5:13
1 Thessalonians 5:13
Psalm 85:10
Romans 13:9;
Hosea 3:1
Matthew 6:24
Luke 11:42
John 15:17

Bible Verse in sign: But the fruit of the spirit is **love** ...
the sign indicates strong arms that lift, hold close, care for,
support, save....

Do you know what it takes to love another person?

We have to have something to give!

We all have more than we need in time and things.

God wants us to grow in our giving to others.

Sharing and giving is the key to loving others.

FAMILY ACTIVITIES:

Talk about who you have trouble (or are uncomfortable) being with. How can you show them God's love?

Make a fruit salad and share it with your neighbors.

Work at noticing more people around you by playing the game "I SEE.....". "I see 3 people in that car"; "There are 10 people in the park"; etc. Challenge each other to see who noticed how many people WERE where you just left.

CRAFTS:

Make a tic-tac-toe board using hearts and strawberries for markers.

Make food/s out of playdough and arrange them on a plate.

PRESCHOOL BIBLE STORY:

The Bible (open Bible in your lap) tells us that, after Jesus rose from the dead and went to heaven, the people who loved Jesus did a lot of things together. What are some of the things you like to do together?....

Yes, these people would play together and work together and eat together. Everyone was loving each other and taking care of each other.... UNTIL (pause)...some people started to complain. What do you think they complained about?....

Well, here's what the Bible says happened. There were people who came to eat together, but some of them were going away hungry. (Move to sit at one table.) The people who sat at this table got served food first. (Move to sit at another table.) There wasn't any food left for the people that sat here. The people loved each other and wanted to fix the problem. They didn't want anyone going hungry. What do you think they did?

They picked 7 people who could be sure that everyone had food. They prayed for those 7 people. They asked God to give them wisdom so they could be fair in sharing the food. With God's help, everyone was fed. People that were watching them wanted to know about Jesus because they could see that these people really loved each other.

DURING SNACKTIME:

Ask how the food should be served. You could pretend to run out of food before serving some of the kids. Use this to let the kids know that in the Bible story for today, people run out of food.

GAMES:

Set the table relay (each team has same stuff and they run and set one piece at a time.)

Pantomime ways to help others while others guess what you are doing.

Play fruit bingo.

Play fruit matching game.

Love Comes First

1. FIYETTS _ _ _ _ _
2. ENSEV _ _ _ _ _
3. EEVWTL _ _ _ _ _
4. REPWO _ _ _ _ _
5. YRDAILP _ _ _ _ _
6. SIWMDO _ _ _ _ _
7. ISBRTIUDED _ _ _ _ _
8. EIVELSERB _ _ _ _ _
9. SNESPOOSSSI _ _ _ _ _
10. YENED _ _ _ _ _
11. AIREICNNGS _ _ _ _ _
12. CLNGTEE _ _ _ _ _
13. WIWSOD _ _ _ _ _
14. OODF _ _ _ _ _
15. RADHES _ _ _ _ _
16. TORLEBIISNSYPI _ _ _ _ _
17. EYPARR _ _ _ _ _

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MUSIC:

Galatians 5:22-23

(Words & music by Gary Pailor. C. 2001 Gospel Light, Ventura, CA 93006)

Spread His Love

(C. 2003 Gospel Light, Ventura, CA 93006)

What are You Gonna Do Today?

(Words & music by Neva and Anthony Felino C. 2003 Gospel Light, Ventura, CA 93006)