

Fruit of the Spirit: FAITHFULNESS

There are nine fruit of the Spirit. Each fruit of the Spirit links to different Christian values and has 12 days of CW.
With thanks to staff at All Saint's CE Primary School in Newmarket for the wonderful idea!

Background Notes: The fruit of the Spirit are found in the book of Galatians, which is part of the New Testament in the Bible. The letter to the church in Galatia was written by Paul. Christians believe that the Bible says that the moment someone chooses to believe in Jesus Christ they receive the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit's help make Christians more like Jesus. One of the main purposes of the Christian life is to progressively allow the Holy Spirit to produce more of His fruit.



Key Bible 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. (Galatians 5 v 22 and 23)

Resources

Lion Storyteller Bible by Bob Hartman
Hey-O! Stories of the Bible by Saddleback Kids

Consider...

- Learning the BSL for each fruit of the Spirit.
- Interspersing your CW with a focus on a different festival, theme or learning more about courageous advocacy.

Fruit of the Spirit Songs

Silly, catchy and useful to help remember the fruits!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X-hrxEjWxkE>

<https://youtu.be/Rezg4jYFoj0>

<https://youtu.be/xWoWDdeD-ns>

How can we link the fruit of the Spirit to our school Christian values?

Love: Friendship, Trust

Patience: Perseverance, Wisdom

Faithfulness: Truth, Hope

Joy: Thankfulness, Courage

Kindness: Generosity, Service

Gentleness: Compassion, Humility

Peace: Respect

Goodness: Creativity, Responsibility

Self-Control: Justice, Forgiveness

FAITHFULNESS

LISTEN:

[Faithful](#) – A song that encourages people to reflect on God’s faithfulness.
[Great is thy Faithfulness](#) – A traditional hymn that declares God is always faithful.

	Key message	Bible	Engage and Response: Christians believe...
1	Fruit of the Spirit: Faithfulness	Galatians 5 v 22 and 23	What do you think faithfulness means? Watch this video. Faithfulness links to trust, loyalty and being constant. For Christians, faithfulness means trusting God and relying on him to take care of them. The Bible says that God is good so for Christians they know they can trust God. Some days that’s easy, but faithfulness can be encouraged every day. We will talk over the next few weeks about people in the Bible who were faithful and trusted in God. If you’d like to, pray and ask the Holy Spirit to help you grow in faithfulness. Listen to one of the songs above, if you have time.
2	Faithfulness: walking beside us	Footprints poem	Watch this video or listen/read the poem Footprints in the Sand. This poem is about a special dream. This dream helped one man to understand more about his relationship with God. What do you think it means when Jesus says that he is carrying the man? How might that help him? How does this footprints poem show God’s faithfulness? How does it feel to think that someone is walking beside us each day? Who walks beside you in your life?
3	Faithfulness: God remains faithful	2 Timothy 2:13	Do you have any pets, or do you know someone who has a pet? Does anyone here have a dog? Sometimes dogs might be described as a “faithful friend.” Why do you think they are called that? Is your dog a faithful friend? What makes them faithful? For Christians, they believe that God will always be faithful. He isn’t faithful because of what we do. God is faithful because that’s what He is. Read the Bible verse from 2 Timothy together. Faithlessness is the opposite of faithfulness. Even if we are lacking faith in him, God remains faithful to us. When we show faithfulness to others, we are treating others the way God treats us. Listen to this song .

4	Faithfulness leads to right and just actions.	Esther 4 Lion Storyteller Bible p78. Hey-O! p189.	Esther was a Queen and was married to King Xerxes. The King and Haman (his evil associate) planned to kill all of God's people. Esther had a choice: she could stand up for what was right and risk her life to protect God's people, or she could ignore their plight and stay safe. Sometimes it is really hard to do the right thing! Watch this video. Esther did the good and right thing: she told the king, he listened to her, and the people were saved. Esther's goodness and faithfulness to God and the people led her to do the right thing, and God saved his people through her actions.
5	God is Faithful to Us	The Lost Sheep: Luke 15:1-7 Lion Storyteller Bible p116 or Hey-O! p293.	Read the story from one of the Bibles or watch this video. This is a story that Jesus told. Who do you think the Shepherd is? Who are the sheep? It is a story of God's faithfulness to His people. Even if one person or sheep goes astray, he will go and look for them, because He loves them and because he is faithful.
6	Friendship and Faithfulness: David and Jonathan	David and Jonathan: 1 Samuel 18:1-5	Think quietly in your head about your friends. In the story today, we will hear about two best friends in the Bible called David and Jonathan. Their loyalty and faithfulness to each other can be an inspiration to us. We have heard about King David before. Watch this video. Because he is faithful, Jonathan act to protect David from his own father. Being a faithful friend is very important. It means that you are there for each other, even in tough times. Have you ever been a faithful friend? Has someone been a faithful friend to you? I wonder...how could you encourage faithful friendship in your school? How can you make sure that everyone has a friend in your school? What practical things could you do to help build strong and faithful friendships?
7	Faithfulness to God: Daniel	Daniel and the Lion's Den: Daniel 6 Lion Storyteller Bible p76. Hey-O! p182	Which animal do you think is the most dangerous? I wonder...what it would be like to be in a den of lions? What would you do? Watch this video. The king was extremely upset about having Daniel punished and he tried to let Daniel go free, but the men insisted that anyone who broke the law was thrown into the den of lions. As Daniel was thrown to the lions the king called out, "May your God, whom you serve continually, deliver you!" (Daniel 6:16). The king knew that Daniel served his God as faithfully as he had served him. So, the king hoped that Daniel's God would be able to save him. Who is Daniel's God? It is the Christian God, seen through Jesus and the Holy Spirit. Being a reliable and trustworthy worker means serving God and those in authority over you faithfully, honestly, and wholeheartedly, just like Daniel did.
8	Faithfulness to God: Roman Centurion	The Faith of a Roman Centurion: Matthew 8:5-13	In Bible times, the Romans had a lot of power. Roman Centurions, also known as officers or commanders, were usually strong, mighty, and proud. In this story, the Centurion's servant was very unwell. Jesus offers to visit him to heal

		Hey-O! p248.	him, but the Centurion felt that he wasn't good enough for that to happen. Often a servant's faith, life and even health was very dependent on their ruler, in this case the Centurion. But the Centurion has faith that Jesus will heal, and that Jesus' word was enough! Watch this video . What does Jesus say about his faith? What does this teach you about faithfulness?
9	Staying faithful: Only worshipping God	Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego: Daniel 3 Lion Storyteller Bible p74. Hey-O! p176.	Watch this video . The three men in the story wanted to be faithful to God and to not worship the gold statue. But the punishment seemed severe. What would you do? Is it always easy to be faithful and to disagree with people? I wonder... how these three men felt disobeying a King? They all trusted in God's faithfulness and power. They knew that God would rescue them and that meant that everyone saw God's power. Spend time reflecting on the story and, if you'd like to, ask that God will help you to stay faithful and to do what is right by him.
10	Staying faithful and trusting in God	Moses: Exodus 2:11-15 Lion Storyteller Bible p32. Hey-O! p75.	You may have heard of Moses before. Watch this video . I wonder...how does this link to faithfulness? What does Moses do? What does God do? Moses grew in faithfulness throughout his life, and he knew how important it was to listen to God. Even when something seems completely impossible, if it's the right thing then God will help you to find a way.
11	Staying faithful and trusting in God	Josiah: 2 Kings 22-23:25 Hey-O! p153.	Josiah became King when he was eight years old. I wonder...how you would feel about that? What if the King of England was only eight years old? What would be good about having an eight-year-old as King and what would not be good? Josiah was known as a wise King, even though he was young, because he chose to follow God and to stay faithful to Him. Watch this video . Josiah led Israel very well and helped everyone else to be faithful and fully committed to God. How can you be like Josiah and lead others to do the right thing?
12	Staying faithful and trusting in God	Jehoshaphat: 2 Chronicles 20:1-34 Hey-O! p146.	A bit like Josiah, Jehoshaphat was known for being a good King who did what God has said to do. Watch this video . Even when three armies were coming towards them, Jehoshaphat knew that he needed to pray. If you'd like to join to, use the EXAMEN prayer to reflect on faithfulness. 1. GIVE THANKS for God's faithfulness that we have heard about in the Bible. 2. ASK FOR HELP to learn more about faithfulness. 3. REFLECT on the story of Jehoshaphat. 4. SAY SORRY for the times you have made the easiest choices, which might not have been the correct choice. 5. DECIDE if you would like to grow in faithfulness.