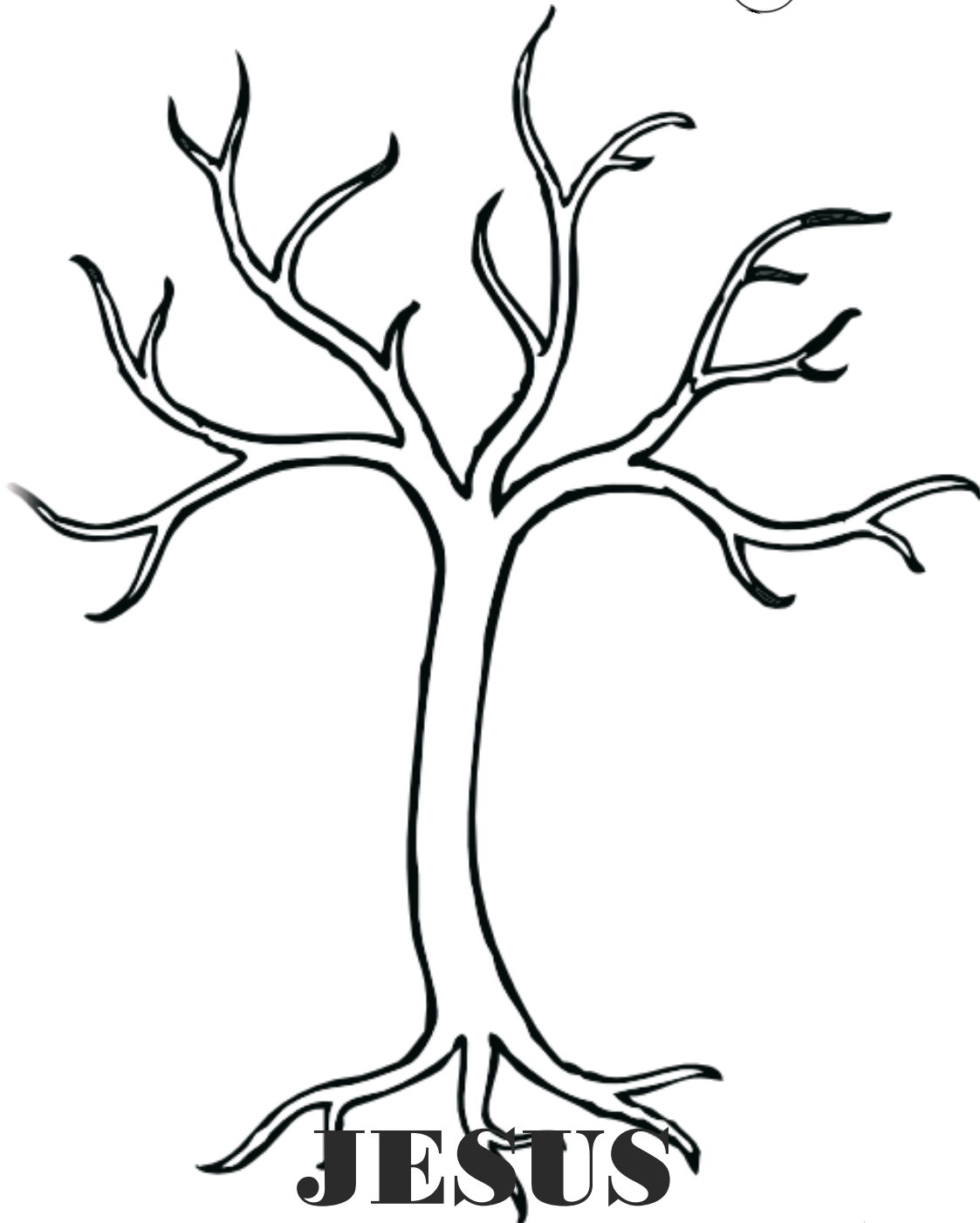
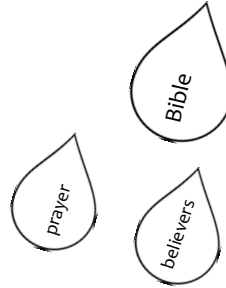
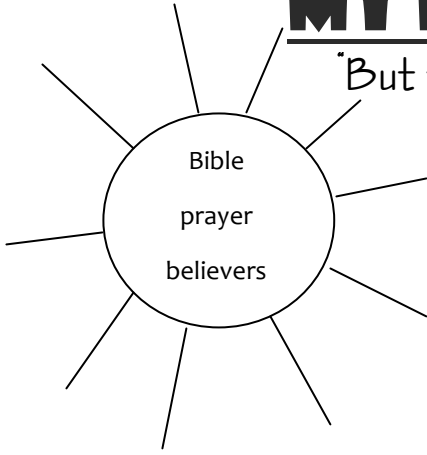
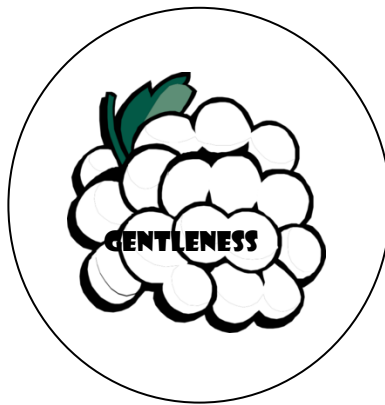
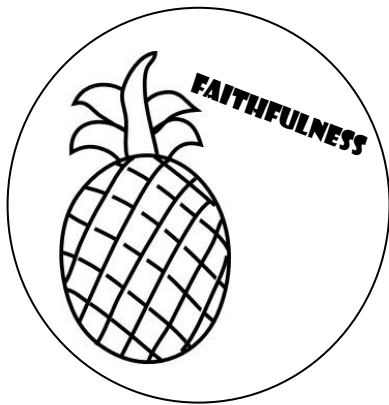
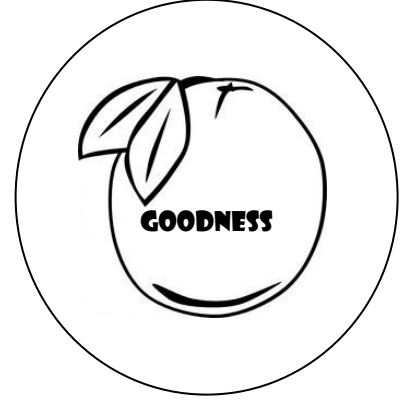
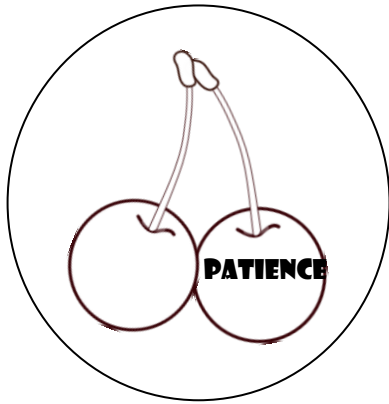
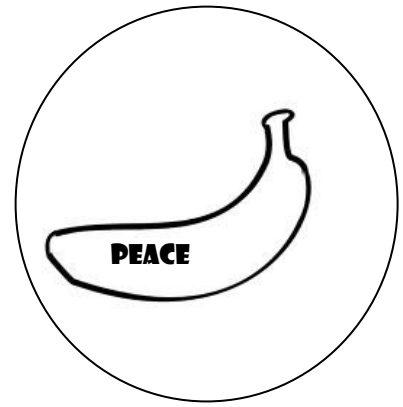
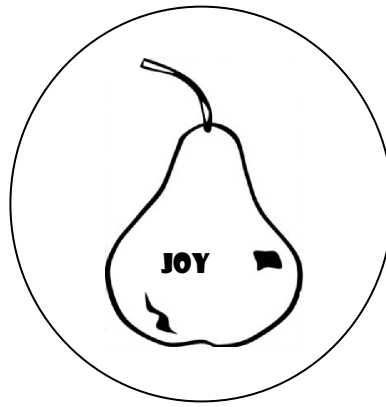
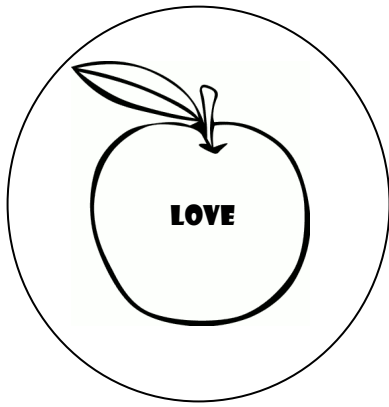


MY FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT TREE

"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 5:22-23





Directions for your “Fruit Tree”

1. Read the passage above the tree. Notice and discuss the fact that the tree has its roots in Jesus and gets nourishment from the Bible, prayer, and other Christians. Talk about how these are important for growing and producing “fruit.”
2. Have your child write his name in the tree trunk and cut out the fruit. As your child colors each fruit, discuss the meaning of the word. See what he knows and then read the descriptions on page three.
3. Ask your child some “quiz” questions to make sure that he understands how each fruit is demonstrated. Give some examples of your own.
4. Hang the tree in a visible area. When you see your child demonstrating a fruit of the Spirit, let him attach the corresponding fruit to one of the tree’s branches. Encourage your child to try to fill up his tree every day!

Love

Love is putting the needs of others first. The Bible says: **“Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends”** (John 15:13). We show love to others when we put their needs above our own. When you let someone play with something you really wanted to play with, you show them love.

Joy is a feeling of happiness. But it isn't just being happy when things go our way. It is a deep happiness that comes from knowing that no matter what, **“all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose”** (Romans 8:28). When you feel really calm, even when things go wrong, you have true joy.

Joy

Peace

Matthew 5:9 says, **“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God.”** We are peace-makers when we stop fights instead of starting them.

Patience

Waiting can be hard. But when you wait with a smile, you show patience. We can be patient during difficult times (Romans 12:12) and patient with others (1 Thess. 5:14) because God is patient with us (2 Peter 3:9).

Kindness

The easiest way to remember the definition of kindness is to remember Matthew 7:12: **“So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you.”** You will know you are being kind if you treat others the way you would like to be treated.

Goodness

We do good when we choose right over wrong. Jesus told us to **“love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you”** (Luke 6:27-28). We can still be good to others, even if others are not good to us.

Faithfulness

You show faithfulness when you follow through on your word—just like God does. Psalm 33:4 says, **“For the word of the Lord is right and true; he is faithful in all he does.”** If you say you will help someone and you do, you are being faithful.

The Bible says that Jesus was **“gentle and humble in heart”** (Matthew 11:29). We can be like Jesus when we are gentle with our hands, our words, our voices and our treatment of others.

Gentleness

Self-control

We show self-control when we control what we think, what comes out of our mouths, and how we react when we are upset. Self-control protects us from bad things happening, just like a wall around a city (**“Like a city whose walls are broken down is a man who lacks self-control.”** Proverbs 25:28).