

Fruit of the Spirit

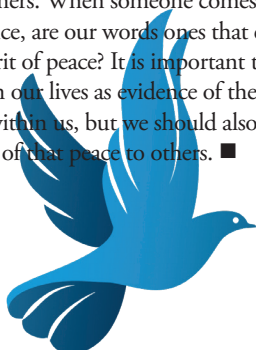
Peace

— Ligin Solamen —

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.”
-Galatians 5: 22-23

The fruits of the Holy Spirit are characteristics that also describe the nature of Jesus. This means that wherever he went, he brought peace to individuals and to their situations. The fruits of the Spirit are characteristics that affirm a life lead by the Spirit. As it says in Romans 8:5-6 “5. Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. 6. The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace.” If we are living a life lead by the Holy Spirit, we should bring a spirit of peace into every circumstance that we encounter.

The fruits of the Spirit should not only be evident in our lives and how we approach the challenges that we face, but it should also be visible in our interactions with others. When someone comes to us for advice, are our words ones that exercise the Spirit of peace? It is important to have peace in our lives as evidence of the Holy Spirit within us, but we should also be carriers of that peace to others. ■



WHY DO PEOPLE STILL RESIST THE MESSAGE OF CHRIST TODAY?

— Jacob Cherian —

Jesus was very popular one day and just a few days later everyone turned against Him and demanded He be crucified. Why?

Let us take a closer look on the attitude of the crowds that followed Jesus. One reason some people turned against Jesus is because He refused to become their king. In those days, the Jewish nation was under the brutal control of the Roman empire, and some hoped Jesus would lead a revolt and take political control. But Jesus refused, because God sent Him into the world to become a different kind of king - one who would rule over our hearts and minds. As He mentioned to Pontius Pilate, the Roman governor, “My kingdom is not of this world” (John 18:36).

But others turned against Jesus, because they refused to believe He was who He claimed to be: the divine Savior, sent from heaven to save us from our sins. They knew that if He really was the savior, then they would have to repent and change their ways, and they did not want to. Even in the last hours before His condemnation and death, the crowd demanded that a notorious murderer be freed, and that Jesus be put to death in His place (Luke 23: 18-25).

The real issue, however, is this: Why do people still turn against Jesus? By His resurrection He proved beyond all doubt that He is the savior, sent by God to make our forgiveness possible - yet millions still ignore Him and reject Him every day.

Do not be one of them. Instead, realize what Jesus did for you through His death and resurrection, and by faith give your life to Him. Jesus’ promise is true: “The one who believes in me will live, even though they die” - John 11:25.

God bless.

PERSECUTED COUNTRY:

SOMALIA

— Gladson John —

FACTS

- Leader: President Mohamed Abdullahi Farmajo
- Population: 11.39 million (A few hundred Christians)
- Main Religion: Islam
- Government: Federal republic
- World Watch List Rank: 2
- Source of Persecution: Islamic extremism/Ethnic antagonism

Somalia has been in a civil war for more than 20 years and is considered one of the most corrupt countries. A new government was established in August 2012. Sunni Is-



lam is their official religion, and there is no religious freedom. The main problem facing the country is poverty.

Somalia has a history of persecution against Christians. Before the new government, their parliament officially approved implementation of Shariah law. The government banned proselytizing. The converts from Islam to Christianity is fewer than 200 people. They do not have freedom like us to choose their religion; most of the

Continued on reverse side...

Bible Puzzle

Fruit of the Spirit List in Code

The fruit of the Spirit is listed in Galatians 5:22-23. The Holy Spirit produces these qualities in the life of each Christian. You can decode the list here.



— O — L — E — V —



— Q — L — B —



— K — V — Z — X — V —



— K — Z — G — R — V — M — X — V —



— P — R — M — W — M — V — H — H —



— T — L — L — W — M — V — H — H —



— U — Z — R — G — S — U — F — O — M — V — H — H —



— T — V — M — G — O — V — M — V — H — H —



— H — V — O — U — X — L — M — G — I — L — O —

In this code, A stands for Z, Z stands for A, etc.

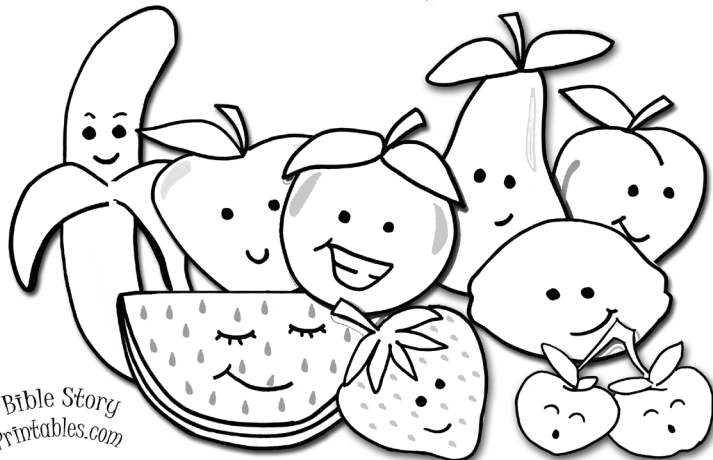
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕
Z	Y	X	W	V	U	T	S	R	Q	P	O	N

Do you let the Holy Spirit produce fruit in your life?

Bible Puzzle from Shirley McKinstry at ministry-to-children.com

The Fruit of the Spirit

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.” Galatians 5:22-23



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Birthdays

March

3 Saramma Ammachi

3 Liza Mathew

5 Joshua Cherian

9 Jasmine Varghese

9 Nathan Varghese

15 Sam Shaji

17 Abraham Itty

21 Justin Joy

23 Benny Yohannan



Christians are secret believers worshipping in house churches. The radical Islamic group al-Shabab has vowed to eradicate all Somali Christians, and have also targeted converts from Islam. The group has executed numerous Christians in the last five years. Conversion to Christianity is not illegal in Somalia, but it is not socially acceptable.

To aid believers in Somalia, we can work through local partners, providing underground Christians with discipleship training, Bibles and Christian books, along with community development programs and more, helping these believers to survive on the outskirts of society. ■

Raffle Question

There will be a question every month and you can turn your answers in to Moncy or Liza. Those with the most correct answers at the end of the year will be entered to win a prize!

Raffle question for March 2017:

What does Paul say may “abound more & more in knowledge & in all judgment”?

Answer:

Name:

Answer from February: Persevere under trail

