

Welcome and Play Time 10 Min

We've spent the last few weeks sharing with our kids how to guard and protect the message. Just as we teach our kids to be cautious about talking to strangers, we need to teach them to be wise as serpents and innocent as doves when it comes to those who are in the Church. They need to know how to spot a "Wrangler" or one who is distorting the message of Christ. Just because someone is a familiar part of the Church family doesn't mean that they might not be a wrangler. By training them to be attentive to misleading teaching we are instilling confidence in the truth of the gospel and not fear and confusion created by mixed messages. Training in "Stranger Danger" is good for their physical safety. Training in "Wrangler Danger" is essential for their spiritual safety.

Use this time as people are arriving for the kids to get comfortable with each other and settled in so that Mom and Dad can enjoy small group.

Bible Lesson Activities 20 Min

Activity 1 - Fruit of the Spirit Much of our passage today is about the "fruit of the flesh." Before we get there, let's spend a few minutes dwelling on what the Spirit of God looks like in a true believer.

(But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control Galatians 5:22-23) Use the attached sheet and have kids color the fruit and cut it out. Write a fruit of the spirit on each fruit. Have kids talk about their fruit and put the fruit in a basket. As the kids color remind them that all good things come from God (James 1:17). Apart from God we can't do anything good (Romans 3:23).



Activity 2 - Wrangler Danger Explain to kids that sometimes people go to churches just to spread lies about Jesus. These people do not have the fruit of the Spirit of God, but they have the fruit of their own flesh. This means they do what they want to simply because they feel like it. We need to watch out for people like this because the things they teach are not in the Bible and we don't want to be fooled by them. Use the Wanted Posters (attached) to talk through what these Wranglers might look like.

Bible Reading Time & Scripture Memory 10 Min

Have a small snack for the kids like pretzels or cheerios to help encourage quiet mouths and listening ears. Pray and thank God for giving us His Words so that we may know the right thing to do and encourage others with it. Read the Word straight through and then give yourself time to discuss after you've read the whole passage.

Read 2 Timothy 3:1-9 (NASB) Read from a Bible if you have one available

1 But realize this, that in the last days difficult times will come. 2 For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, 3 unloving, irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, brutal, haters of good, 4 treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, 5 holding to a form of godliness, although they have denied its power; Avoid such men as these. 6 For among them are those who enter into households and captivate weak women weighed down with sins, led on by various impulses, 7 always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth. 8 Just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses, so these men also oppose the truth, men of depraved mind, rejected in regard to the faith. 9 But they will not make further progress; for their folly will be obvious to all, just as Jannes's and Jambres's folly was also.

Discuss with the children what the verses mean. Paul is like Timothy's spiritual dad. He cares very much for the Church and for Timothy as his son. He wants to make sure that Timothy isn't so trusting of everyone so that the message that he's been given gets messed up. **What are some things that Paul warns Timothy to watch for (the fruits of the flesh)?** (*loves himself, loves things, loves money, doesn't obey parents, not thankful for anything, makes up his own rules, doesn't forgive, spreads mean stories about people, mean, hurtful, etc.*) **Why should we watch out for these people?** (*they lead people away from the truth*) **What encouragement can we get from verse 9 (reread the verse)?** (*God will not let them win. He will make their foolish ways easy to spot for everyone.*)

We say this every week, but to be able to spot what is wrong what do we need to know? The truth! Let's hide some more of God's word in our hearts so that we can be ready to spot people who want to lead us away from the truth! Does anyone know the verse from last week? (*2 Timothy 2:24 And the Lord's servant must not quarrel; instead, he must be kind to everyone, able to teach, not resentful.*)

Let's learn another one! (*say each phrase 10 times and then connect the phrases*)

holding to a form of godliness, although they have denied its power; Avoid such men as these. 2 Timothy 3:5

Coloring Sheet 10 Min

Have older children help the younger children with their coloring sheet. Talk about the Bible reading as you color. Help reinforce the Bible verse and what it means as they color.

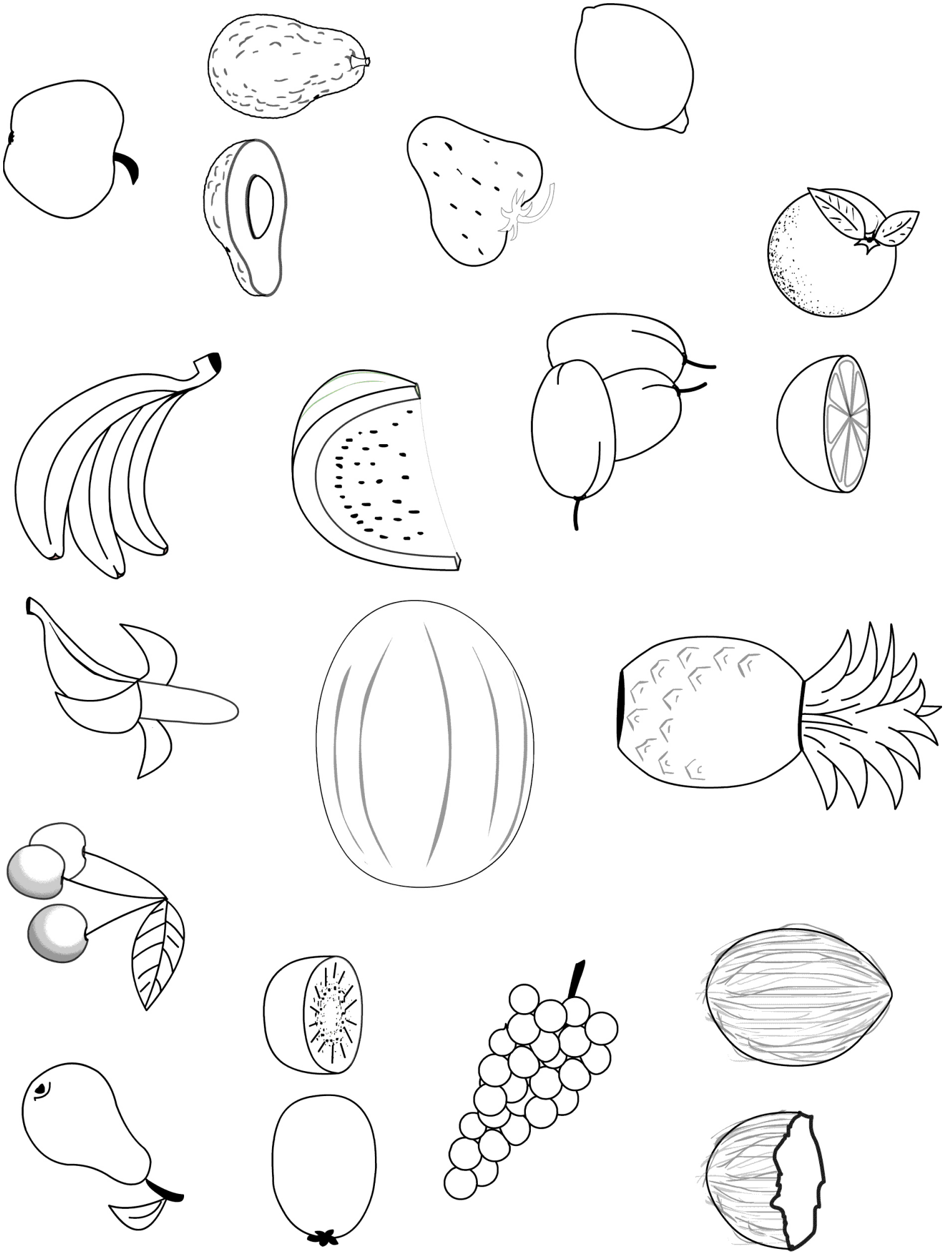
Closing/Clean Up 5 Min

Clean up and make sure everyone has shoes on, coloring sheets in hand and everything is put back in the room. This is a tough lesson. It is important to remember that we must take our teaching roles very seriously even if it is only to little learners. James 3:1 says, "Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness." Choose your words carefully as you shepherd these young sheep this week. Pray that God would guide your tongue as you guide these children. Praise God for the wonderful joy and challenge it is to shepherd young people!

holding to a form of
godliness, although they
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2 Timothy 3:5





WANTED



Ima Star

Ima Star is in love with herself! She loves to hear herself talk. She has a beautiful singing voice and everyone is always amazed when she sings. She wears new clothes all the time and thinks people who don't have nice things aren't very special. She is sure she is the best at everything and is not interested in being helped or learning from anyone. She could talk about herself all day long and is not very interested in what others have to say.

She looks for people who are not very sure of themselves and encourages them to "idolize" or "worship" her instead of God. She thinks "loving others" means telling them all of the wonderful things about herself and showing them how they can be just like her.

WRANGLER DANGER ALERT:

What are some things she is doing wrong?

Who does God say we should worship?

When you find someone like this what should you do? *(talk to your parents about how they are acting, read the Bible, talk to your pastor)*

WANTED



Leslie Dership

Leslie Dership (less leadership) doesn't ever listen to her parents. She only obeys them when she wants to. She is not thankful for anything because she thinks she should get everything she wants all the time! She doesn't ever consider what might happen if she does something - she just does it. She is the one that decides what is right and wrong because she doesn't listen to anyone. Love is not something she does - ever. She doesn't obey her parents, so she does not love them. She NEVER forgives. She doesn't see anything she would need to be forgiven of, so she doesn't understand the need to forgive.

She causes trouble in the Church as she does not respect the Pastor or any other adult. She encourages bad behavior and going against the rules that adults set.

WRANGLER DANGER:

What are some things that she is doing wrong?

Who has God put in charge of your life? Who do we listen to?

When you find someone like this what do you do? *(Remember the truth your parents have taught you. Ask your parents to let you know what is right. Read the Bible)*

WANTED



Ac Ting Wong

Ac Ting Wong (acting wrong) is a boy that does what he wants when he wants. If he's angry, get out of his way. He hits, he screams, he kicks walls and he'll tell you all about it. If he's mad at you he'll tell everyone mean things about you just to make you look bad. If he's unhappy he'll go crazy and out of control, loving what is bad and hating what is good. If you thought you were his friend, watch out because as soon as he's not happy you will be in his path of destruction and he won't care at all about your friendship.

He gets excited when he gets someone to do the wrong thing. He likes to bring people down because it makes him feel better about himself.

WRANGLER DANGER:

What are some things he is doing wrong?

Why did God give us rules?

When you find someone like this what do you do? *(Do not think of them as cool. It is never cool to do the wrong thing. Talk to your parents about what might be the right thing to do. Talk to your pastor about how to please God. Read your Bible.)*