

CALVARY CHAPEL OAKDALE



2023-2024

THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

MARCH, 2024

This Month's THEME:

**WE ARE TO BEAR
THE FRUIT OF "FAITHFULNESS" &
"GENTLENESS".**

WEEKLY THEMES THIS MONTH:

Week 1: We need the fruit of God's faithfulness.

Week 2: Do we know where to find faithfulness?

Week 3: We need the fruit of God's gentleness.

Week 4: Do we know where to find gentleness?

Week 5: Do people see gentleness in us?

(5th Weekly devotion for months with 5 Wednesdays)

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

Psalm 37:3 – Trust in the Lord, and do good; Dwell in the land, and feed on His faithfulness.



Full verse for:
Armor Bearers & Knights

Psalm 37:3 – Trust in the Lord and do good; and feed on His faithfulness.



Short verse for:
Page & Squires

Lesson #1 - We need the fruit of God's faithfulness.

Text: Galatians 5:22 - "The fruit of the Spirit is ... faithfulness."

Read: Galatians 5:19-26.

Devotional:

Anthony was so happy to get a job after months of searching. He also desired to work very hard to make his employer happy. But after a few months of working the manager told him they needed to talk.

And the manager told him, "Anthony, I have some good news for you and some bad news for you." Well, that scared Anthony. So, he asked the manager to please explain what he meant.

His manager went on to say, "Anthony, the good news is we can see you are a hard worker and work very diligently while you are here."

So, Anthony said, "I'm so glad to hear that you're pleased with my work ethic. Can you please tell me the bad news now?"

Then the manager said, "Yes! The bad news is you have not been faithful to show up for work on time. In fact, there have been days you've been so late we've had to call others in to cover for you."

Then Anthony said, "I didn't know it was such a big problem."

And his manger said, "Anthony, the fact you don't see this as a problem might is the biggest problem. We need workers who are faithful and don't need to be told when they are being unfaithful. So, if you are late again, we will have to let you go. We like your hard work. But we simply cannot tolerate employees that are unfaithful. We'd rather have an employee who is not as hard or as good as you but is faithful. We need to be able to count on you being here to do your job. So, your job here is now in your hands. Please be faithful."

Thoughts from the Lesson:

Anthony was shocked to hear this, but faithfulness is a trait people need to be able to count on in life. Our God has always been faithful to do everything He said He would do.

Questions for Application:

- Did we know Jesus was faithful enough to die for us?
- Did we know our witness can be affected by unfaithfulness?
- Did we know God gives us the power to be faithful?

Lesson #2 - Do we know WHERE to find faithfulness?

Text: Psalm 37:3 - "Trust in the Lord, and do good; Dwell in the land, and feed on His faithfulness."

Read: Psalm 37:1-6.

Devotional:

Kevin was asked to write a paper at school about a person who had been faithful to him. So, Kevin went on a quest to find the most faithful person he could recall. And the more he looked and studied, the more he realized one person stands head and shoulders above all other people in terms of faithfulness.

Kevin wrote his paper about Jesus and gave the following examples:

Example 1: Jesus was hated by the world just for declaring many things the world does are evil (John 7:7). Yet He still died on the cross to pay for all their sins.

Example 2: The religious leaders plotted to kill Jesus (Matthew 26:4). Yet when any of them, like Nicodemus, wanted to know the truth, Jesus took the time to minister to them and to teach them.

Example 3: Jesus followers scattered from Jesus the night He was falsely arrested (Matthew 26:31). Yet Jesus loved them and restored them and still used them to minister to people for Him.

Example 4: Jesus was even on the cross dying because evil men put Him there. Yet Jesus prayed to the Father and asked Him to forgive them because they did not know what they were doing (Luke 23:34).

So, Kevin wrote about all this and said he could not think of anyone, in all of human history, who was so faithful to serve people.

Thoughts from the Lesson:

Did we know Jesus was so faithful He was able to say this about God the Father, "I always do those things that please Him."? And because Jesus was always faithful, we can feed on His faithfulness forever.

Questions for Application:

- Do we know Jesus is the ONLY one who was faithful in everything He did for His entire life?
- Do we want to be seen as faithful to people in life?
- Do we know we can be faithful all the time if we're filled with the Holy Spirit?

Lesson #3 - We need the fruit of God's gentleness.

Text: Galatians 5:22 - "The fruit of the Spirit is ... gentleness."

Read: Galatians 5:19-26.

Devotional:

Charles was a young man who did not have a home that was peaceful. Unfortunately, he often saw his parents fighting with each other and it made him very sad.

But once he became friends with Andrew, he began to spend more and more time with Andrew and his family. Charles even told his friend, "Andrew, your parents are so kind and gentle to each other. I've never seen parents that were like that all the time. Has it always been that way?"

And Andrew told Charles, "No! My dad used to be very harsh with me and my mom and I was often scared. But a few years ago, he started going to church and was shown how he could trust in Jesus for having died on the cross for him to pay for his sins and to completely forgive him. And from that moment my dad began to change. And he now looks calm and gentle all the time. I am so glad he changed so much because of what Jesus has done in his life."

Charles then asked, "Is he now kind and gentle all the time?"

And Andrew said, "No! He struggles at times. But he also learned he can only be good and gentle when he is humble and asks the Holy Spirit to fill Him with His gentleness. So, my dad has learned how to be gentle as a result of the work of the Holy Spirit in his life."

And Charles then asked, "How can I learn more about Jesus and the work of His Holy Spirit for me and for my dad?"

Thoughts from the Lesson:

Did we know Jesus and His Holy Spirit can completely transform a person's life to look more and more like Jesus, who is always very gentle to all people.

Questions for Application:

- Do we consider ourselves as gentle to others?
- Do we believe in Jesus so we can be filled with his Holy Spirit?
- Have we asked the Holy Spirit to fill us with His goodness?

Lesson #4 - Do we know WHERE to find gentleness?

Text: 2 Samuel 22:36 - ""You have also given me the shield of Your salvation; Your gentleness has made me great."

Read: 2 Samuel 22:1-2 & 22:36-37.

Devotional:

King David is known as one of the great kings of Israel. In fact, many revere him as the greatest king in Israel's history. He will even live in Jerusalem the whole time Jesus rules there in the future.

But when David was alive, he struggled with his flesh just like everyone else. And David had to be saved by believing God would send a Savior one day and David could believe in that Savior to save him.

Well, there was a time David committed two very bad sins and David didn't confess those sins to the Lord for almost a year. David even wrote later, in Psalm 32, that the months he was stubborn and did not confess his sins, it really ate at him.

So, David realized at some point, no humans are great or have greatness because we have all done bad things. And this is a struggle we can all have in life.

Now anyone can trust in Jesus to save us and to forgive us of our sins. David came to know that and because of it, He said what we have recorded in 2 Samuel 22:36.

David said that God had given him the shield of salvation. In a war, shields can protect us from dying. David knew he deserved to die, but God's salvation protected Him. David also realized God's gentleness towards him is the only reason he became great in God's kingdom.

Thoughts from the Lesson:

Do we know there is NOTHING good in us (Romans 7:18)? Yet God is willing to make us great just for believing in Jesus.

Questions for Application:

- Do we know we don't deserve to be great at all?
- Do we know God is so loving and gentle to us, which is why we can become great because God loves us?
- Did we know we can tell people we are saved because God is so gentle?

Lesson #5 - Do people see gentleness in us?

Text: Philippians 5:5 - "Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand."

Read: Philippians 4:2-5.

Devotional:

Michelle had a friend in school, named Betty, who didn't show up for a couple of days. So, Michelle called her to ask if she was sick. But her friend told her, "No. My grandmother died a couple of days ago and I was with my family preparing for her memorial service."

Well, Michelle was so sad to hear that and asked her, "How did the memorial service go? Was it sad for you and your family?"

Then Betty told her, "Michelle, the service was very hard. But it wasn't as bad as I thought because there was a time during the service that people got up and spoke about my grandmother. And person after person spoke about how many kind things, she did for them. And every one of them talked about how gentle and caring she was to them. So, I got to see the great influence my grandmother had on many people because of her gentleness. The pastor also pointed that out and asked everyone if we would like to leave a legacy like that with our lives. Finally, the pastor said my grandmother was so gentle and caring because she wanted to be like Jesus because He was so gentle and caring."

That's when Michelle said, "I want to leave a legacy like that and to be known as a gentle and caring person. Can you tell me again how your grandmother got to be like that?"

And Betty was happy to tell her how her grandmother learned to love people like Jesus did.

Thoughts from the Lesson:

We should all think about the legacy we want to leave behind. We can leave a good one if we live like Jesus did.

Questions for Application:

- Did we know people who are gentle and why they are?
- Do we know we can be gentle and caring like Jesus?
- Do we know it is only possible as we are filled with God's Holy Spirit?

What are the age groups for WFC?



Pages

(3-4 years old)



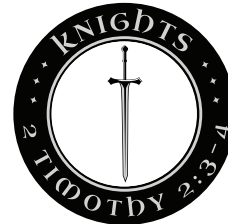
Squires

(K-2nd Grade)



Armor Bearers

(3rd-6th Grade)



Knights

(Jr. & Sr. High)

Note: All age groups determined by child's age on 9/1 ea. yr.

What awards can our children earn?

Three special pins can be earned each year and are awarded to the children as follows:

1. Sword Pin: For memorizing 6 verses during the WFC calendar year.
2. Helmet of Salvation Pin: For bringing 3 different friends to an evening during the calendar year.
3. Armor Pin: For attending 2/3 of the 34 weeks or more (22 wks).

Is there a cost for the club?

No! The club is free. The t-shirts are \$20 each.