

# FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

Galatians 5:22-23

## Games

**Y**ou are the teacher. A good teacher will learn his or her students' names. For some children their name is their most valuable possession. Teachers need to direct their students. The direction you move is more important than the pace. Here are a few "get acquainted" things to do. Get to know your students and enjoy being a teacher!

### "I've got a terrible memory..."

- Take photos of students with a Polaroid camera and review them like flash cards.
- Repeat the name 3 or 4 times in your first conversations with the student (e.g., "It's great to meet you, Mary").
- Ask for identifying information.
- Associate the name with someone else you know with that name.
- Study the student's face while you're being introduced.
- Transfer the name to a concrete image to help you remember.
- Ask God to help you remember—we recollect what's important to us.
- Write the name down (on your hand, card, or scrap paper). The act of writing will help you remember.
- Have the student test you by asking—"What is my name?"
- If your class is too large to recall each student's name, use nametags.

### Do You Know?

By the end of the Feast could you answer the following questions about your students?

- Do you know where they are from?
- Do you know how many siblings are in their family?
- Do you know who their parents are?
- Do you know what grade they are in?
- Do you know what they fear?
- Do you know their favorite foods?
- Do you know their hobbies?
- Do you know who their minister is?



### Question Bowl

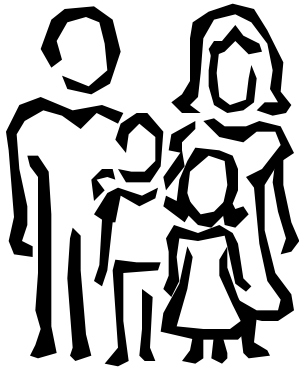
**Time:** 5 minutes

**Supplies:** Small cards, pen, large glass bowl.

**Objective:** To give the students an opportunity to recall information from previous lessons.

**Instructions:** Write out Bible names from the content of recent lessons. Add a score, such as 20, 30, and 40, depending on how obscure the name is. Fold the cards in half and place them in the bowl. Make enough questions to allow each student two or three turns. One at a time, children take turns picking a card from the

bowl. Choose a scorekeeper. The first child must tell who the person is that is named on the card she drew. If she is correct, she gets the number of points listed on the card. The teacher is the judge. If the student is partially right, the teacher can award her half or a quarter of the points. The individual student with the highest score is the winner. Play for five minutes.



### **Parental Involvement**

**Time:** 10 minutes.

**Supplies:** 3 x 5 cards and pencils.

**Objective:** To encourage parents to be involved in what their children are learning in Sabbath school.

**Instructions:** Give your students a “question of the

day” or a “question of the week” to take home. Their assignment is to get their parents’ answers to the questions. Let the students in the group come up with the questions. Give them examples to consider such as, “What are the most important things in your life?” “What gives you the greatest satisfaction in life?”; or a question from the lesson of the day, such as, “Where does God tell us about His Armor?” or “Why does a Christian need to wear the Armor of God?”

Questions such as these will open discussions between kids and their parents and will also provide excellent material for a group discussion in which your students compare parents’ answers with their own.

### **How To Bee...**



**Time:** 5 minutes.

**Supplies:** Chalkboard and chalk, dry-erase board and pens or large poster board and wide-tip pens.

**Objective:** To encourage students to think about how their actions should reflect the teachings of Jesus.

**Instructions:** On the board draw a picture of a beehive. On the bottom write, “Bee Helpful.” Ask your students to think of as many “Bees” as they can that show they are followers of Christ.

### **The Name Game**

**Time:** 6 minutes (may want to do this activity on the first day of class).

**Supplies:** None.

**Objective:** To learn the names of all your students.

**Instructions:** Have everyone sit in a circle. Ask them to think about an object that begins with the first letter of their first name—e.g., Jill, jam; Bill, box.

Starting anywhere around the circle have someone begin the introductions by stating his or her first name along with finishing the following sentence: “While packing to go to the Feast of Tabernacles, I packed\_\_\_\_\_.”

Whatever they packed begins with the first letter of their name. First person: “Hi my name is Nancy. While packing to go to the Feast of Tabernacles I packed nuts.” Second person: Hi Nancy, my name is Bob. While packing for the Feast of Tabernacles I packed books.” Third person: Hi, Nancy and Bob. My name is Whitney and while packing for the Feast of Tabernacles, I packed whistles” (and so on).

The person on the right repeats the first person's name, say "Hi, \_\_\_\_\_!" and states his or her own name in the same way. The game continues around the circle with each student having to repeat the names of everyone who has gone before them. This means that the last person gets to name everyone! Whew!

To ensure success with this activity, below are some suggestions:

- If you have a large group, break into smaller groups.
- Students who are unable to come up with what they packed may ask the group for help.
- Younger kids might name something that does not necessarily begin with the first letter of their name. For example: My name is Jill and I packed a pea.

### **Who Are You?**

**Time:** 5 minutes.

**Supplies:** Paper and pencils.

**Objective:** To get to know your students and reinforce that they are important to you and to God.

**Instructions:** Give each student a piece of paper and a pencil. Ask them to describe themselves in 15 words.

Either they can read what they wrote or you, the teacher, can read them and the students can guess who is being described.

### **Blind Art**

**Time:** 5 minutes.

**Supplies:** Paper and pencils.

**Objective:** To get the students' mind on the subject for the day. Use any picture that relates to the story of the day.

**Instructions:** Give each student a piece of paper and pencil. You will say a word and they will draw a picture of a related item. Be sure your students keep their eyes closed while they draw

their "picture." When the time is up—a minute is about enough—let them look and hear the laughter begin.

Make the shift from the picture to the lesson.

### **Under The Table**

**Time:** 5 minutes

**Supplies:** Beanbag

**Objective:** To make the opening moments a happy time and to guide the students into a happy Bible study.

**Instructions:** Arrange the students evenly around the table so that they can easily reach the hand of the next person. Explain the rules; the beanbag is to be passed under the table person to person. When the teacher claps his hands, the student holding the beanbag must call out a Bible book or a virtue of the Fruit of the Spirit. Continue passing the beanbag. When the teacher claps his hands again, the student holding the beanbag must call out another Bible book. No Bible books or Fruit of the Spirit can be renamed. Be sure the students pass the beanbag quickly. The teacher will not be able to see who has the beanbag, so he cannot be accused of clapping unfairly. Keep going for not more than five minutes. All those who have not missed three times are declared the winners.

### **Candy Hunt**

**Time:** 4 minutes

**Supplies:**

Individually wrapped candies, paper, pen, and cellophane tape.

**Instructions:** Write out about twenty questions on paper in small print. Cut them apart and attach them to the candies



with cellophane tape. Before class, hide them around the classroom. At the strike of ten o'clock (or whatever the starting time), explain that the students are to find as many candies as they can. They must answer the questions in order to keep the candy. If they can't answer the question, the teacher keeps the candy for another time, or helps the student until a proper answer is obtained. Be sure the questions relate to what your lessons are about. Examples:

1. Name the nine virtues that are the Fruit of the Spirit.
2. Where was the woman at the well from that Jesus visited?
3. What did Paul and Silas do in prison?
4. Who were Mary and Martha?
5. Who is Jesus?
6. What was taken from King Saul while he slept?
7. What Feast are we celebrating?
8. Why should we pray?
9. Why should we read the Bible
10. Why should we follow the Ten Commandments?
11. Why should we memorize Bible verses?

## **Verse Forward**

**Time:** Five or six minutes

**Supplies:** Chalk or string to mark a start and finish line.

**Objective:** To help children hide God's Word, the Bible, in their hearts.

**Instructions:** Make a start and a finish line. Line up the students at the start line and let the one on the left be number one. Count off; ask the children to remember their numbers. Starting with number one, the first child must tell a Bible verse from memory. If the child does it correctly, she can take one giant step toward the finish line. If it is said almost perfectly she can take one regular step. If she can say only part of a verse, one baby step may be taken. Then child number two can try. It must be a different verse. He advances by the same regulations. The first student to reach the finish line is declared the winner.