



# Jesus Teaches About Good Fruit

Luke 6:43-45

First- and second-graders understand that not all people have the same backgrounds or religious understanding. In this lesson, kids will learn how they can share their faith with friends, some of whom may not have heard about Jesus. Help kids become comfortable sharing their faith by role-playing in class. Once kids have practiced in the safety of your classroom, it will be easier for them to share their faith in real life.



### ► Bible Point

Acting like Jesus shows we're Christians.

### Key Verse

"In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven" (Matthew 5:16).


### Weaving Faith Into Life

Kids will work to be more Christ-like.

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>1</b> Getting Started	<b>Who Am I?</b> <i>(about 10 min.)</i> Try to identify classmates by their shoes.	tape, newsprint	Tape newsprint across a corner of the room so kids can stand behind the paper with their feet showing.
<b>2</b> Bible Exploration	<b>Identifying Christians</b> <i>(about 15 min.)</i> Learn that we can identify Christians by their actions.	Bibles, field guide, newsprint, marker, tape, My Bible Fun, crayons, colored pencils	Tear out the Lesson 1 pages from each My Bible Fun student book.
	<b>Let Your Light Shine!</b> <i>(about 20 min.)</i> Learn the Key Verse and make sun catchers to let their light shine.	Bible, CD player, 1 plastic page protector per child, eye droppers, watercolors, scissors, hole punch, yarn, 1 copy per child of the lyrics page (at the end of the lesson) <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	

*Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.*



LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<p><b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life</p>	<p><b>Shine, Shine, Shine!</b> <i>(about 10 min.)</i> Learn how to produce good fruit in their lives.</p>	<p>Bible, scissors, CD player, 1 copy per child of the lyrics page (at the end of the lesson) <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD, “Let Your Light Shine” poster</p> 	
<p><b>4</b> Lasting Impressions</p>	<p><b>Daily Challenges</b> <i>(about 5 min.)</i> Choose a Daily Challenge to apply God’s Word.</p>	My Bible Fun	
	<p><b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> <i>(about 2 min.)</i> Talk about how to share what they learned with their families.</p>	My Bible Fun	Tear out the letter to parents from the back of each My Bible Fun student book.

***Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.***





### Who Am I? Supplies

tape  
newsprint

### Who Am I? Easy Prep

Tape newsprint across a corner of the room so kids can stand behind the paper with their feet showing.

## 1 GETTING STARTED

### Who Am I?

#### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Welcome kids warmly as they arrive, and ask them how their week went.

Gather everyone together. Then have kids stand next to each other in a line, facing away from your screen. Tell kids to close their eyes.

Say: **Today we're going to play a game to see if you can recognize who people are by the shoes they're wearing. I want you all to keep your eyes closed as I walk behind the line. I'll tap three people on the shoulder, and those three people will quickly step behind the screen and face the class. Then we'll all try to guess who's behind the screen. Ready? Keep those eyes closed!**

Tap three children on the shoulder, and have them step behind the screen. Then let everyone else turn around and try to guess who's behind the screen, based on the shoes they see. Then have kids line up again in a different order and play again. After several rounds of play, have kids form pairs to answer the following questions. After each question, invite partners to share their answers with the rest of the class.

#### Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- Was it easy or hard to guess who people were by their shoes? Why?
- Can you tell much about a person by the clothes he or she wears? Explain.
- How can you tell what a person thinks or believes?
- How do we show that we're Christians?

Say: **You can't really tell much about a person by the clothes he or she wears. To find out what someone is really like—what they think and believe—you have to go deeper than looking at someone's clothes! As we go through today's lesson, remember that ► ACTING LIKE JESUS SHOWS WE'RE CHRISTIANS. Let's get started!**



## 2 BIBLE EXPLORATION

# Identifying Christians

### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Gather kids in a circle on the floor, and hold up your field guide.

Ask:

- Who knows what this book is?
- How is this book used?

Say: **This book is called a field guide. It's a book that people take outside with them to help them identify different trees. Let's look inside.**

Open the field guide to several different pages, and show kids how the book uses a tree's characteristics to help identify it. If you brought in several field guides, show pages from them, too. Then pass the books around the circle for kids to look at.

Adjust your discussion based on the type of field guide you have. Say: **As you can see, a field guide helps people tell which tree is which, just by looking at it. The field guide tells all about what each tree looks like—what its leaves look like, what its trunk looks like, and even what its roots look like. So if we want to know what a maple tree looks like, we can just open our field guide to the maple tree page and see exactly what a maple tree looks like. That way, when we're out walking and we see a tree that looks like that, we can tell it's a maple tree!**

**Today's Bible story is all about being able to tell which people are Christians. Let's find out what Jesus said.**

Distribute Bibles, and help kids turn to Luke 6:43-45. If you have a good reader in class, have him or her read the passage aloud as kids follow along in their Bibles. Otherwise, read the passage aloud yourself. Then have kids turn to partners to answer the following questions. After each question, invite volunteers to share their answers with the rest of the class.

Ask:

- What do you think Jesus meant when he said, "Each tree is recognized by its own fruit"?
- What kinds of trees produce fruit?

If your field guide contains a picture of a fruit-bearing tree, show the picture to the kids.

Say: **Lots of trees produce fruit, but they produce only their own kind of fruit. Apple trees produce apples, orange trees produce oranges, and banana trees produce bananas. Jesus knew that fruit only grows on its own kind of tree or bush. Just as**



### Identifying Christians Supplies

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- Bibles
  - field guide
  - newsprint
  - marker
  - tape
  - My Bible Fun
  - crayons
  - colored pencils

### Identifying Christians Easy Prep

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Tear out the Lesson 1 pages from each My Bible Fun student book.





Jesus said, “People do not pick figs from thorn bushes, or grapes from briars.” Jesus knew that grapes only grow on grape vines and figs only grow on fig bushes.

But Jesus was talking about more than fruit. He was talking about people, too! Jesus was saying that you can tell what a person is like by the kind of fruit he or she produces.

Ask:

- How can people produce fruit?

Say: Jesus didn’t mean that people produce real fruit. The kind of fruit that Jesus meant was the words and actions that people produce. He meant that good people produce good fruit by doing and saying good things. When we believe in Jesus, that means we’re Christians. And when we believe in Jesus, we want to please him by doing and saying good things. When we say and do good things to please Jesus, people can tell we’re Christians.

Just as we can tell an apple tree because of the apples it produces, people can tell we’re Christians because of the good things we say and do. Now that you know what Jesus said about producing good fruit, our Bible Point makes a lot more sense: ► **ACTING LIKE JESUS SHOWS WE’RE CHRISTIANS.**

Let’s talk a little more about how people can tell we’re Christians. Think of things that people might do that would show they’re Christians.

Encourage kids to call out Christ-like actions or behaviors, such as being kind, forgiving, giving to others, praying, praising God, going to church, and telling others about Jesus. Write kids’ answers on a chalkboard or sheet of newsprint.

Then direct kids’ attention to the “Field Guide to Christians” activity in their My Bible Fun pages. Set out crayons and colored pencils.

Say: **Let’s make our own field guides to help us remember today’s Bible Point.**

Encourage kids to fill in the blanks on the picture with the words or phrases they just thought of. Be ready to help kids with reading and spelling. When kids have finished, have them find partners to display their pictures to.

Say: **When we’re Christians, our lives should show it. People should be able to look at how we act and what we say and know that we believe in Jesus. Our lives should shine with the light of Jesus! In fact, that’s just what our Key Verse for today says.**





# Let Your Light Shine!

## What You'll Do

Say: **Let's read our Key Verse for today. It's found in Matthew 5:16.**

Open your Bible to the Key Verse, and show it to the class.

Say: **Our Key Verse says, "In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven."**

Ask:

- **What do you think "let your light shine before men" means?**
- **How can you let your light shine?**
- **Why should you let your light shine?**

Say: **Let's make something today that will help us remember to let our lights shine so others will know we are Christians.**

Cue your CD to "Let Your Light Shine" (Matthew 5:16) (track 2 on the CD) and play the song. Have kids sing along with the CD a few times. Then play the song softly in the background as kids work on their crafts.

Sing:

 **Hey! Hey! Yeah!**

**Hey! Hey! Yeah!**

**Let your light shine before men that  
They may see your good deeds and  
Praise your Father in heaven.**

**Let your light shine before men, yeah,  
Let your light shine before men.**

*(Repeat.)*

**Let your light shine before men that  
They may see your good deeds and  
Praise your Father in heaven.**

**Let your light shine before men, yeah,  
Let your light shine before men.**

**Let your light shine before men, yeah.  
Let your light shine before men.**

**Hey! Hey! Yeah!**

**Hey! Hey! Yeah!**

"Let Your Light Shine" (Matthew 5:16) by Carol Smith. © 2003, 2006 Group Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved.



## Let Your Light Shine! Supplies

- Bible
  - CD player
  - 1 plastic page protector per child
  - eye droppers
  - watercolors
  - scissors
  - hole punch
  - yarn
  - 1 copy per child of the lyrics page (at the end of the lesson)
- Teacher Pack**  
CD: "Let Your Light Shine" (Matthew 5:16) (track 2)





### Shine, Shine, Shine! Supplies

Bible  
scissors  
CD player  
1 copy per child of the lyrics page (at the end of the lesson)

#### Teacher Pack

CD: "Let Your Light Shine" (Matthew 5:16) (track 2)  
"Let Your Light Shine" poster

Give each child a plastic page protector. Have watercolors and eye droppers available. Use the droppers to help kids drip shallow puddles of watercolors onto the plastic page protector. When the puddles dry, the color will remain on the plastic page protector.

Take the dry plastic page protectors and help kids cut crosses out of them. Punch a hole at the top of the cross, and thread yarn through the hole.

Say: **I want you to take this home and hang it in your window. When the sun shines through the pretty colors of the cross, remember that you can let your light shine to show other people you are a Christian.**

## 3 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

### Shine, Shine, Shine!

#### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Say: **Let's take a look at our Key Verse again.**

Open your Bible to Matthew 5:16, and show kids the verse. Say: **"In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven."**

Have kids form four groups. Assign each group one of the scenes in the poster. Have groups talk about what they could do in the scenes to let their lights shine so that others would see their good deeds. After they've talked about their pictures, have each group act out its solution for the class.

After each group's presentation, lead the class in a big round of applause. After all of the presentations, have kids answer the following questions in their groups. After each question, invite volunteers to share their answers with the rest of the class.

#### Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- How did it feel to decide to do something good to let your light shine?
- How do you think other people feel when someone does something good for them?
- How do we show we're Christians?

Say: **Jesus tells us that when we let our light shine and people see our good deeds, they can praise God. Let's sing our Key Verse song again. It will help us remember to let our lights shine.** Play "Let Your Light Shine" (Matthew 5:16) (track 2 on the CD), and have the kids sing.







# 4 LASTING IMPRESSIONS

## Daily Challenges

### What You'll Do

Say: **Let's think about how  ACTING LIKE JESUS SHOWS WE'RE CHRISTIANS.**

Have kids find this week's Daily Challenges in their My Bible Fun pages and choose one to do this week. They can choose one or more of these three options:

- **Tell someone at school about Jesus.**
- **When your dad or mom comes home from work, give him or her a big hug, and thank him or her for being a great parent!**
- **Help your neighbor around the house. Offer to clean, help with yardwork, or whatever else they may need!**

Make sure you choose a Daily Challenge as well, and tell kids what you chose. Kids will be more inclined to follow through on their commitments when they see you doing the same.

### Talk With Kids

Lead kids in this discussion.

Ask:

- **What's a practical way you're going to do your Daily Challenge? Include a time, a place, and other ideas.**

Say: **Let's remember that  ACTING LIKE JESUS SHOWS WE'RE CHRISTIANS as we follow through on our Daily Challenges.**

## Weaving Faith at Home

Send the letter to parents home with your kids or give it to parents when they pick up their children. This is a great way to show families they're important to your church and to support their role as spiritual leaders to their children.

Encourage kids to talk with their parents about the Daily Challenges they chose and what they learned about how acting like Jesus shows we're Christian. Kids can also do the activities in the "HomeConnect" section of their My Bible Fun pages with their families.

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church's families. Available at [group.com/digital](http://group.com/digital).

Take a couple of minutes to pray with your kids. Pray: **Dear Lord, thank you for helping us let our lights shine. Help us remember to always shine for you! In Jesus' name, amen.**



### Daily Challenges Supplies

My Bible Fun

### Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Fun

### Weaving Faith at Home Easy Prep

Tear out the letter to parents from the back of each My Bible Fun student book.



## Lyrics

# Let Your Light Shine (Matthew 5:16)

Hey! Hey! Yeah!  
 Hey! Hey! Yeah!  
 Let your light shine before men that  
 They may see your good deeds and  
 Praise your Father in heaven.  
 Let your light shine before men, yeah,  
 Let your light shine before men.  
*(Repeat.)*

Let your light shine before men that  
 They may see your good deeds and  
 Praise your Father in heaven.  
 Let your light shine before men, yeah,  
 Let your light shine before men.  
 Let your light shine before men, yeah.  
 Let your light shine before men.  
 Hey! Hey! Yeah!  
 Hey! Hey! Yeah!

"Let Your Light Shine" (Matthew 5:16) by Carol Smith. © 2003, 2006 Group Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved.

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