



HOOK

Tell the children you are going to say the word “listen” in two ways and ask them to tell you whether they think you are gentle the first time or the second time.

Then say “listen” roughly for the first time and gently for the second time.

Tell them whether they were right.

-- or --

Ask the kids to identify which is a “gentle” sound.

Make sound effects or play a recording of a few different sounds:

- Powerful wind howling
- Earthquake and rock shattering
- Fire
- A soft whisper (saying “Peace” or something similar)

Today we are going to learn about the fruit of the Spirit called, “gentleness.”

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

We are going to learn today about our God who is strong and mighty, but who is also gentle.



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FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT: GENTLENESS

STORY: GOD IS GENTLE

God was Gentle with Elijah (1 Kings 19:11-13)

Elijah the prophet was running for his life because the evil queen wanted to kill him. He found a cave at Mount Sinai, and he hid there and spent the night.

God came to find Elijah. He told Elijah to stand on the mountain of the presence of God as he was going to pass by. Elijah had never seen God before, he only heard his voice. So Elijah went and stood on the mountain.

Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind. After the wind, there was an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire, came a gentle whisper or "still, small voice". When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave and God spoke to him.

God was gentle with Elijah.

Jesus was gentle with the Samaritan woman (John 4)

When Jesus was on earth, he met a Samaritan woman at the well. He spoke to her first by asking her for a drink. The woman was not so friendly and was quite rude to him. Jesus was a Jew and the woman was a Samaritan. During those times, Jews and Samaritans were enemies. But Jesus saw that the woman's need to be love and accepted. He spoke to her gently and she ended up believing in Jesus as her Saviour.

Let's watch this video on Jesus and the woman at the well. See how gentle Jesus was with this woman, how he treated her.

<https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=jesus+meets+woman+at+the+well+youtube+&FORM=VIRE1#view=detail&mid=1DDA8368D12B16EC79FF1DDA8368D12B16EC79FF>

(It is the video where the woman is wearing a brown hat)

Jesus was gentle towards the woman.



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FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT: GENTLENESS

LESSON

Jesus is gentle to us

In Matthew 11:29, Jesus tells us that he is gentle and humble in heart. When we find it difficult to handle our problems, we can go to him anytime. Jesus takes our cares and burdens upon his strong shoulders.

Jesus says, in Revelations 3:20, "Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me". He did not say he will bang the door or knock down the door down if we did not open it.

Although God is so powerful and strong, he treats us gently. He lets us choose whether we want to follow him and do what he says. But the Holy Spirit lives in us and he speaks to us gently, in a still, small voice. He reminds us that we are righteous (because Jesus has given us his righteousness and removed our sin) and guides us to choose what is good.

We can be gentle

Remember, we have Jesus in us. He is the vine, and we are the branches. If He is gentle, we can be gentle to others too.

Ephesians 4:2 says, *"Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love"*.



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ACTIVITY SUGGESTIONS

Share: How can we be gentle with others?

Memory Verse challenge: Game, activity or craft with the memory verse.

"Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love". (Ephesians 4:2)

Songs/Worship:

Fruit of the Spirit (by Steve Green) — revision

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PLJt_85MNLY

God is so good/Jesus you are so good

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AoL-PAfx2vg>

Forever God is Faithful

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uSM96OA39ic>

Yesus pokok dan kita cabangnya

<http://www.kidung.com/2010/08/12/lirik-chord-lagu-sekolah-minggu-yesus-pokok/>

Close in prayer.