

LEARN IT!



A good tree can't grow bad fruit, and a bad tree can't grow good fruit. A tree is known by the kind of fruit it grows. For instance, figs and grapes don't grow on thorn bushes. Similarly, a good person does good deeds from a good heart, and an evil person does evil deeds from an evil heart. Whatever is in your heart determines what you say and do. (Source: Luke 6:43-45)



What is in our heart determines what we say and eventually who we are. If we have Jesus in our hearts, choose the right friends, and read God's Word daily, we will continue to grow spiritually. We will grow "good fruit". We will make right choices that honor God and help others.



We shouldn't make wrong choices or say bad things if we have pure hearts. If we have Jesus in our hearts and we are growing spiritually, we won't want to be mean to others or disobey our parents. As we keep growing spiritually, we will want to do what is right. By putting the right things *in* our hearts, the right things will come *out* of our hearts.



We need to go to church, read the Bible, pray, and hang out with good friends. Each of these things will keep us connected to God. Then we will grow deeper spiritually and produce "good fruit"—just like it said in today's story. These activities will keep us on the right "road". By growing deeper, we will have the truth in our hearts, and from our hearts we will do and say the right things.

Main Point:

Each child will see the importance of growing in the Lord with others who are committed to the Lord's teachings. Having friends with good character will help us grow. If we follow God's Word, we will have goodness in our hearts and the desire to grow spiritually.

Practice Point:

If I have Jesus in my heart, He and I will never part.

Memory Verse:

So cheer each other up with the hope you have. Build each other up. In fact, that's what you are doing.

1 Thessalonians 5:11 NIV

Family Prayer:

Lord, I pray that you will keep us strong in your Word so we will continue to grow in you. Help us to keep good company. I know that we will grow deeper in our faith if we surround ourselves with friends that have good character. This week, we will read the Bible memory verse to a friend and say one thing to encourage him or her to grow deeper spiritually.

TALK TO US!

I HAVE A...

- PRAYER REQUEST
- QUESTION
- COMMENT

Please write your prayer requests, questions and/or comments on the back.

First Name:

Last Name:

Thanks for coming this weekend! We hope you had a great time. We will see you next time!

LIVE IT

TABLE TALK (Questions for family discussion)

Question 1: What kinds of things can you do to grow deeper spiritually?

Question 2: Why is it important to surround yourself with good friends?

Question 3: How can you encourage a friend to keep growing in Jesus?

US IN ACTION (Ideas to do at home this week)

Activity 1: Read the memory verse to a friend and say something to encourage him/her. To whom did you read it?

Activity 2: Draw a picture of a heart and write a word inside of it, like pray, read, love, or church. This will help you to remember to grow spiritually this week.

Activity 3: Say the prayer enclosed in this activity guide together at dinner or bedtime.

Activity 4: Color all 7 days of coloring sheets. Turn in at least 1 coloring page to the Interstate 4 One Another "Rest Stop" on Sunday Morning.



Growing Together Week 4 – January 29, 2012

So cheer each other up with the hope you have. Build each other up. In fact, that's what you are doing.

1 Thessalonians 5:11 NIrV