



# Love, Joy, Peace



## THE MISSION AIM

To help recruits know that the Holy Spirit develops “good fruit” in us, such as love, joy and peace.



## KEY VERSE

Galatians 5:25: “Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.”



## Pre-Mission Activity



## Supplies Needed

- Put recruits into partners

## Directions

**SAY:** Welcome back, recruits. I thought it would be fun this week to begin with a partner game. I want you to think back to this morning when you were getting ready for the day. Did you look into the mirror? If you did, what did you see? (Allow for answers) Did you realize your reflection does exactly what you are doing? If you raise your arm (Do this), your reflection does too. For our game you are going to stand facing your partner. One of you will be the mirror reflection. Your job is to move exactly as your partner is moving. When your partner tilts his head (Do this) you tilt your head, and try to keep up with your partner. If you are the person making the moves, remember to move slowly so that your “reflection” can keep up with you. Go ahead and give it a try.

**DO:** Allow a few minutes of this and then give them an opportunity to switch roles.

**SAY:** As I was looking into our lesson for today, I found that our Bible verse says, “Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.” That is found in Galatians 5:25. Keep in Step with the Spirit. Last week we learned that the Holy Spirit helps us to know and remember how we should live our lives. I believe that to keep in step with the Spirit must mean that we are to go through our days as the Spirit would want us to, you know, to do as the Spirit would do. Walk as the Spirit would walk, sort of like we are the mirror reflection of the Spirit. We move just as the Spirit would move.

**SAY:** Let’s check in: RTS Recon Team – Recruits here are ready to serve.



## Mission Uplink 1



Have ready YouTube playlist: "Season 3 – Fruit of The Spirit Episode 3: Love, Joy, Peace"

Play "Fruit of The Spirit (S3) Episode 3 (1/4)". Episode begins with the *Ready to Serve* theme song, followed automatically by the MISSION # 1 VIDEO. Pause the video when the MISSION # 1 CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete Mission # 1.

If using PPT for video, have FOTS-Episode\_3-Love\_Joy\_Peace.pptx ready and play slide one. Pause on the MISSION # 1 CARD so you and your recruits can complete Mission # 1.



## Mission #1



### Supplies Needed

- Potting soil and small scoop
- Styrofoam cups or small pots for planting
- Sunflower seeds (raw, not roasted or salted)
- Water – watering can
- Bible opened to Galatians 5:22-23



### Mission Assignment

**SAY:** It would appear that Michael and Christie have a lot to deal with at control central and Simon is busy at Broadview Village finding the secret of Joy. I do hope that he will report back so that we will learn this secret. Poor Kate; she needs to rest. She needs to discover that "secret of peace" that the Commander referred to. Recruits, since we have a mission to complete, let's read it together. (Reading mission card from satellite uplink) "Recruits dig into God's Word and discover what the fruit of the Spirit is and what the Bible says about it."

**SAY:** I have an idea that will help us as we discover the fruit of the Spirit. Let's begin by planting a small sunflower seed.

**DO:** Move to the area where all of your planting supplies are.

**SAY:** We want this small seed to grow and eventually flower. What do we need to make that happen?

**DO:** Allow the recruits to answer and as they do, show them the supplies you have brought.

**SAY:** We need soil, and water and of course sunlight to help make our plant grow. Each of us can take some soil and put it into our pots. Now pick one seed and push it into the soil just a little below the surface so that it is covered with the soil. Then we'll give it a little water and place it in the sunlight.

**SAY:** While you are doing this, I would like you to listen to the words found in Galatians 5:22:23. It reads, "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."



**SAY:** These nine fruit of the Spirit are characteristics of Jesus. This means that when we think of Jesus or when we look at what he said and did, we see: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Jesus treated others with each of these fruit. Crispin is confused because he has heard that these “fruits” grow inside of him. They aren’t actual fruits like apples and pears but characteristics, ways we want to behave and live our lives. The truth is that like the seed we planted, we need help to grow and bloom into a lovely flower. Our seed will need sunlight, water and the soil it is planted in. We need the Holy Spirit to work in and through us to help us develop each of these Fruits of the Spirit. Try saying each of these after me: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. To show these through my life would be to live as Jesus lived.

**SAY:** We should probably let Michael and Christie know what we have learned. I wonder how they are doing with the clean-up at Control Central, and how Kate and Simon have made out discovering the “secret of peace and joy.”



### Mission Uplink 2



YouTube: Play “Fruit of The Spirit (S3) Episode 3 (2/4)”. Pause the video when the MISSION # 2 CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete Mission # 2.

PPT: Click to advance to next slide. Pause video when MISSION #2 CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete Mission # 2.



### Mission #2



### Supplies Needed

- A small sign for each of the following: Love, Joy, and Peace (one set for each recruit)
- Wooden sticks like tongue depressors (can purchase at a local dollar store)
- Markers or pens



### Mission Assignment

**SAY:** We have our second mission. Let’s countdown from three and read it, 3-2-1 (read mission card from satellite uplink). “Look into God’s Word and find out how the fruit of the Spirit: love, joy and peace can be found there.” The story Michael wants us to look at is found in 2 Kings 6. It’s Elisha’s story. Elisha is a prophet of God. He knew of the war that was taking place between the King of Aram and the Israelites. He sent messages to the King of the Israelites warning him of the plans that the King of Aram had made to harm the Israelites. At one point, the King of Aram began to believe that someone in his own army was sharing his plans with the Israelites because every plan he had became ruined. His officers told him that it was actually the prophet Elisha. They told him that Elisha seemed to know everything he said, even those things said in his bedroom. The King of Aram was not happy with this. He told his men to find out where Elisha was so that they could capture him. During the night, the King sent horses and chariots



to Dothan, where Elisha was staying, and they surrounded the city. When Elisha's servant awoke, he saw all of the chariots and horses that surrounded the city, and cried out to Elisha, "What should we do?"

**SAY:** Elisha and his servant have woken up to find themselves surrounded by this evil king's army. If you were Elisha or his servant, how would this make you feel? (Give time for answers) What would you do? (Give time for answers)

**SAY:** I believe I would be very frightened if I was Elisha or his servant. I am not sure how I would react but I do need to tell you that I probably would not have had the same reaction that the prophet had. He is an inspiration to me of someone that exhibits or shows love, joy and peace.

**SAY:** As I share the rest of the story I want you to listen carefully and decide if you see Elisha showing love, joy or peace to the king of Aram and his men. I am going to give each of you three signs. One reads, love, the second, joy and the third peace. Hold up one of your signs when you hear that Elisha is showing one of these characteristics.

**DO:** Hand out the signs. When you read the story the first time, the recruits may not be able to pick out the fruits of Love, Joy and Peace. After spending a few moments explaining each fruit before reading the story a second time, it may be easier to identify these.

**DO:** Read 2 Kings 6:16 – 23 (NIV, if possible)

**SAY:** It is hard to see the fruits of love, joy and peace as we hear the story for the first time. Maybe this is because we haven't taken the time to really figure out what we mean by love, joy and peace. Before we look at this story again, let's take a moment to define these three Fruit of the Spirit.

**SAY:** Hold up your "Love" sign. What do you think this means? (Give time for answers.) We are told many times in God's Word to love one another. With the help of the Holy Spirit, we can develop love for others. Love means to love others as God loves them.

**SAY:** Now hold up you "Joy" sign. What do you think Joy means? (Give time for answers.) Joy is not the same as being happy. Happiness usually depends on what is happening around us, but joy is the inner gladness God gives us regardless of our circumstances.

**SAY:** Let's hold up our "Peace" sign. What do you think Peace means? (Give time for answers.) Peace is not worrying, because we know God is in control.

**SAY:** I'm going to read 2 Kings 6:16-23 to you again. This time as you listen you will hear when Elisha had peace. He knew God was with him and that he had sent his angels on chariots of fire to protect them. Elisha was not anxious or afraid for he knew God was with him and was in control. Have your sign for peace ready.

**SAY:** As you continue to listen to the story, you will see joy revealed when Elisha asks God to open the eyes of his servant so he could see what Elisha saw, the chariots of fire there to protect them. Elisha was excited to show his servant what he could see. He was not feeling frustrated or defeated because of the situation surrounding him. Even though someone wanted to kill



him, Elisha had joy, inner happiness, because he knew God was with him. Be ready to hold up that sign of joy.

**SAY:** Finally, we will see how Elisha showed love to the army when the King of Israel was ready to kill the evil king’s army, but instead Elisha tells him to feed them. He would not allow them to be harmed. Elisha was helping them even when he knew they would not do the same for him or Israel. He was compassionate towards them and showed them love.

**DO:** Read the story from 2 Kings 6:16-23 again. Pause to allow the recruits to hold up their signs at the appropriate times.

**SAY:** Love, Joy and Peace. As I read the story once more, hold up your signs when you hear love, joy and peace being shown.

**SAY:** To see these characteristics through the life of Jesus and through the life of Elisha is a wonderful way of learning how we can show these fruits or characteristics. It is not always easy to show love, joy or peace but we can with the Holy Spirit’s help.

**SAY:** Is one of these fruit more difficult for you to experience and share than the others? Let’s choose that fruit of the Spirit and write it down on a tongue depressor.

**DO:** Give out a marker and tongue depressor to each recruit. Allow the recruits to write either: love, joy or peace on the tongue depressor.

**SAY:** Now let’s put it into the side of our cup with our seed. Each time we water our plant or check on its growth, we will see our little “sign”, and it will remind us to take time to talk to God and to ask him to grow his fruit in our lives.



### Prayer Huddle



YouTube: Play “Fruit of The Spirit (S3) Episode 3 (3/4)”. Pause the video when the PRAYER HUDDLE CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete the prayer huddle.

PPT: Click to advance to next slide. Pause video when PRAYER HUDDLE CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete the prayer huddle.



### Supplies Needed

- Plants

### Directions

**DO:** As you gather around your plants, recognize that each of us needs to care for the plants and to provide them with what they need to grow and flower.

**SAY:** Just like this seed needs water, sunlight, air and soil to grow, we need God’s word and the working of the Holy Spirit to allow the Fruits, or the “Apps” as Michael referred to them, to grow. Sometimes we need help to get those seeds of love, joy and/or peace to grow so that



we can experience the characteristics of Christ in our own lives. Each of us has chosen one fruit today that we would like to work on. Let's take a moment to share this with another recruit. Turn to your elbow buddy and share with each other the fruit you want to ask the Holy Spirit to help develop in you.

**DO:** If needed share your own first. For example: Peace – I want to develop the fruit of peace in my life. To do this, I am going pray and tell God about those things that cause me to worry or become anxious and I am going to trust Him to take care of all of those things that worry me.

**DO:** Allow the recruits to share with one another and then close the time in prayer being sure to pray for each recruits request to develop their own fruit of the Spirit.

**SAY:** Recruits, looking at the Fruit of the Spirit that Elisha showed was quite neat, because we saw how even though the king of Aram wanted to capture and harm him, Elisha was still able to show love, joy and peace in the situation. God's Word teaches us so very much.

**SAY:** Let's check back in with Michael and the rest of the Recon Team. I wonder if Simon has discovered the secret of joy yet or if Kate has found peace?



### Mission Uplink 3



**YouTube:** Play "Fruit of The Spirit (S3) Episode 3 (4/4)". Pause the video when the FIELD MISSION CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete the Field Mission Project.

**PPT:** Click to advance to next slide. Pause video when FIELD MISSION CARD appears on screen and remains as you and your recruits complete the Field Mission Project.



### Field Mission Project



### Supplies Needed

- Large heart cut out of Bristol board and then cut into pieces of a puzzle. (label the back with a dot)
- There should be one piece of the puzzle per recruit (if you have a small group, keep a few pieces blank so that you can add to the puzzle as you think of more ideas.)
- Chart paper
- Marker
- Option 1 – Fruit of the Spirit Coupons printed on business card paper (Avery business cards 5371 or 8371) if possible, staple or hole punch and ribbon, scissors (see attachment page 8)
- Option 2 – Plan to have an extra class time to work on a group project together



## Mission Project

**SAY:** Let's have a drumroll for our final mission (read mission card from satellite uplink). "Recruits work together to discover more about the fruit of love and how we can show God's love to others."

**SAY:** Hmm! We know that love is loving others as God loves them. But what does this look like in our everyday lives? How do people show love to others? Any ideas? (Caring for others, being kind, helping out, hugging our parents, doing something nice for our neighbour, taking cookies to the elderly lady down the street, etc.)

**DO:** Allow the recruits to share their thoughts on love.

**SAY:** The Bible tells us to, "Love your neighbour as yourself." What are some ways that we can show love to those who live around us? (We speak kindly, help out at home, share, help our brothers and/or sisters with homework, deliver papers, invite others to hang out with us, cut our neighbours lawn or shovel the snow, etc.)

**DO:** Have each recruit write or draw their idea on their piece of the puzzle. Make sure that the pieces are labelled so they know which side to draw/write on. (The dot is on the back of the puzzle piece.) Once each puzzle piece is complete, work and on putting the heart back together.

**SAY:** When we show love to others, we are growing fruit. We are becoming more like Jesus. What are some ways we can work together to show love to others?

**DO:** On chart paper, make a list of ideas that the recruits share. (i.e., make cards for those in the church community that are shut in or sick, bake cookies to give to the congregation as they are leaving church (this may require some additional help from another adult), put together a work party that could go to some senior's homes to help clean, cut the lawn etc., choose a gift that you could make for members of the congregation, put on a food drive or clothing drive for your local Family Services)

### Option 1

**DO:** Give out Fruit of the Spirit Coupon cards to the recruits. Have them put the cards into a booklet using either a stapler or hole-punch and ribbon. They can take these cards home and use one a day to work on developing love, joy and peace. Two cards have been left blank so the recruits can come up with their own plans to work on developing a fruit or characteristic of their own choice.

### Option 2

**DO:** Choose one idea that you can work on together the next time you meet. Once you have chosen your project, plan to spend a Ready to Serve meeting time working together on your project. Be sure to have everything you need to complete the project when you meet together. You may need to recruit extra adult volunteers to assist the recruits with the project.

**DO:** Close your time together in prayer.



**NOTE** Squad leader if you are doing Option 2, be sure to remind the recruits of the project you will be working on at your next meeting and anything they need to bring with them.





# LOVE COUPON

Redeemable for:

Surprise someone in your family with a hug today!



# LOVE COUPON

Redeemable for:

Secretly do a kind deed for someone, or give them a surprise gift.



# PEACE COUPON

Redeemable for:

Memorize a Bible verse to help you remember God's power:

1 John 4:4b



# PEACE COUPON

Redeemable for:

Pray: "Please God, give me your peace" each time you start to worry.



# JOY COUPON

Redeemable for:

Learn 1 Thess. 5:16-18: Always be joyful. Never stop praying. Give thanks no matter what happens.



# JOY COUPON

Redeemable for:

Make a list of all the good things God has done for you.



# LOVEJOYPEACE COUPON

Redeemable for:

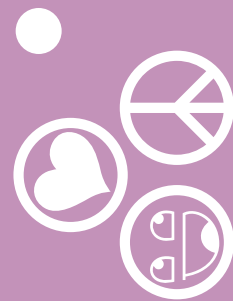
Make a card, or bake some cookies. Give them as a gift to make someone's day brighter!



# LOVEJOYPEACE COUPON

Redeemable for:

Think of a time when God has brought something good out of bad circumstances.



# LOVEJOYPEACE COUPON

Redeemable for:



# LOVEJOYPEACE COUPON

Redeemable for:

