

Lesson: Jesus is the Lord of the Harvest

How many of you have ever helped plant a garden before? What are some things you've planted?

The Fall season is also the harvest season. This is the time that farmers go out into their gardens to harvest all the fruits and vegetables they've grown.

Show students the basket of fruits and vegetables. Ask each student what their favorite vegetable is.

Last week, we learned that Jesus is the "True Vine" and we are the branches of that vine. Jesus wants to grow good fruit in our lives if we stay attached to him through the work of the Holy Spirit.

Re-read through John 15:5 (verse from last week)

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."

Today we're going to learn that Jesus is also the Lord of the Harvest. But instead of harvesting vegetables and fruits, Jesus harvests people, or human souls, for God's Kingdom, for eternal life. Jesus also wants us as his followers to harvest human souls for him by sharing with others the good news about Jesus.

Watch video:

<https://www.freebibleimages.org/illustrations/gnpi-047-lord-harvest/>
Lord of the Harvest (Matt 9:35-38)

Jesus wants to grow spiritual fruit in our lives when we follow him and obey his commands. There are different types of fruit that he wants to grow inside us:

- The fruit of righteousness (Phil 1:11) - this is the holiness that comes from Jesus once we put our trust in Him.
- The fruit of our lips (Heb 13:15) - this comes through the words of our mouth when we give praises to God.
- The fruit of the Spirit (Gal 5:22-23) - this comes from the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives as we faithfully follow Jesus with our lives.

Read through the Fruit of the Spirit: (have students read flash cards)

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control." Galatians 5:22-23

Hebrews 13:15 NIV, "Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the fruit of lips that openly profess his name."

Philippians 1:11 NLT, "May you always be filled with the fruit of your salvation—the righteous character produced in your life by Jesus Christ—for this will bring much glory and praise to God."

John 4:36 NLT, "The harvesters are paid good wages, and the fruit they harvest is people brought to eternal life. What joy awaits both the planter and the harvester alike!"