

Fresh Fruit Pie is inspired by the "Fruit of the Spirit" found in the Bible. As filmmakers, we focus on this teaching because it is simple for children of all ages to understand and relevant to situations in their daily lives.

"The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the sinful nature with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit." (Galatians 5:22-25)

Fresh Fruit Pie - "Party!" focuses on the fruit of joy. Every portion of this episode carries "joy" as its underlying theme. Kids today lead fast-paced lives, and it requires fast-paced media such as Fresh Fruit Pie to capture their attention and imagination. When harnessed properly, this episode is a powerful tool to teach kids the virtues of joy in living with the Spirit of God. The Fresh Fruit Pie Bible study provides a link to learning about Christ's teaching through the show.

It's possible to be happy despite not having everything we want.

Mr. Banana explained how kids in Africa don't have access to even basic needs like food, while we often complain about unimportant things such as the size of a birthday cake. Billy the birthday boy became frustrated with the toy he received, the pie his mom made him, and the older teen who crashed his party. All of us experience things we don't like; however, it is ultimately our choice whether to be happy with our life situation or not. To make the choice to be happy, though, we first need to get life into perspective:

But godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it. But if we have food and clothing, we will be content with that. People who want to get rich fall into temptation and a trap and into many foolish and harmful desires that plunge men into ruin and destruction. (1 Timothy 6:6-9)

If you had everything you wanted, you'd probably still be unhappy and still want more. It's human nature. To grow in life, you need to learn to look beyond that desire to discover joy.

So how do you become joyful?

Even though Billy had a nice home and plenty of food, he found plenty of things to make him unhappy. It's human nature to want what we don't have. If we focus too much on what we don't have, though, we'll always be unhappy. In the Bible, Paul talks about what made him happy:

I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do everything through him who gives me strength. (Phil. 4:12-13)

The message from Paul is clear: Jesus Christ can satisfy and give us joy.

Looking forward to the greatest joy.

If we believe in Jesus and give ourselves him, we are offered a reward that lasts forever: Heaven. It's a place where we will forget all the unhappiness and misery we feel on earth, replaced with a giant party that will last for all time.

Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh....Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, because great is your reward in heaven. (Luke 6:21-23)

BIBLE MEMORY VERSES: Galatians 5:22, Psalm 97:11, Ecclesiastes 3:12