

Fall Harvest Time

By Christy Huffman

To celebrate the fall apple harvest, take some time to enjoy making and eating an apple treat. Then learn about the fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control (Galatians 5:22-23), which is part of our daily lives.

For

Young Family

Season

Fall

Needed

Bible, apples, 12 ounces of caramels, saucepan, spoon, craft sticks, waxed paper, cookie sheet; optional: colored sprinkles or chopped nuts



Figure 1 <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0/>

Prepare in Advance

Activity Plan

1. Choose a time to pick apples—from an orchard, farmer's market, backyard tree, or display at the grocery store. Pray before your excursion:

Thank you, God, for Fall, a time when crops are ready for harvest. Help us have fun enjoying the fruits of the harvest. In Jesus' name. Amen.
2. Make caramel apples with some of the apples you bring home. Use the following directions:
 - a. Line a cookie sheet with waxed paper. If you want to use them, place a small pile of sprinkles or nuts on the waxed paper.
 - b. Wash and dry the apples. Twist off the stems and push craft sticks halfway into the apples where the stems were.
 - c. Place 12 ounces of unwrapped caramels and 2 Tablespoons water in a saucepan and melt over low heat, stirring often to prevent scorching.
 - d. Dip apples in the melted caramel, using a spoon to help coat the fruit. If desired, roll gently in sprinkles or nuts.
 - e. Place apples, stick side up, on waxed paper. Refrigerate until the caramel is firm, about $\frac{1}{2}$ hour.
3. When you gather to eat the caramel apples, have someone read aloud Galatians 5:22-23 from your Bible (or see the text below). Explain that Paul wrote this letter to encourage the Galatians to care for one another. The Spirit helps us to treat one another in these good ways. Discuss: *What are some ways we show the Spirit's fruit in what we say and do?*

Galatians 5:22-23

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

4. Close with this prayer:

Gracious God, thank you for giving us fruit to eat and the fruit of the Spirit to help us live well. Help us to share your fruit with others. Amen.