

By Their Fruits

“By their fruits you will know them” (Matthew 7:20).

“A good tree does not bear bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit. For every tree is known by its own fruit. For men do not gather figs from thorns, nor do they gather grapes from a bramble bush. A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart brings forth evil” (Luke 6:43-45).

Materials:

markers, crayons, or colored pencils
paper
optional: colored construction paper, scissors, and glue

Suggested Procedure:

1. On one half of the page, make a picture of different kinds of fruits: apples, oranges, bananas, cherries, *etc.*
(Optional: You could also make the fruit by tearing shapes from colored construction paper and gluing it to the page.)
2. Write a good activity on each fruit or near it.
3. Then make some bad fruits—fruit that has gone bad or has a worm inside.
4. Write down some bad activities on or near these fruits.

Text slip:

“By their fruits you will know them” (Matthew 7:20).

Related activity:

1. Display some bad fruit that is rotting, moldy, or has worms in it. Then display a variety of good fruit.
2. Which fruit would you choose to eat? Why or why not?
3. Why is it harder for us to recognize or judge the actions of the people around us than to separate good and bad fruit?