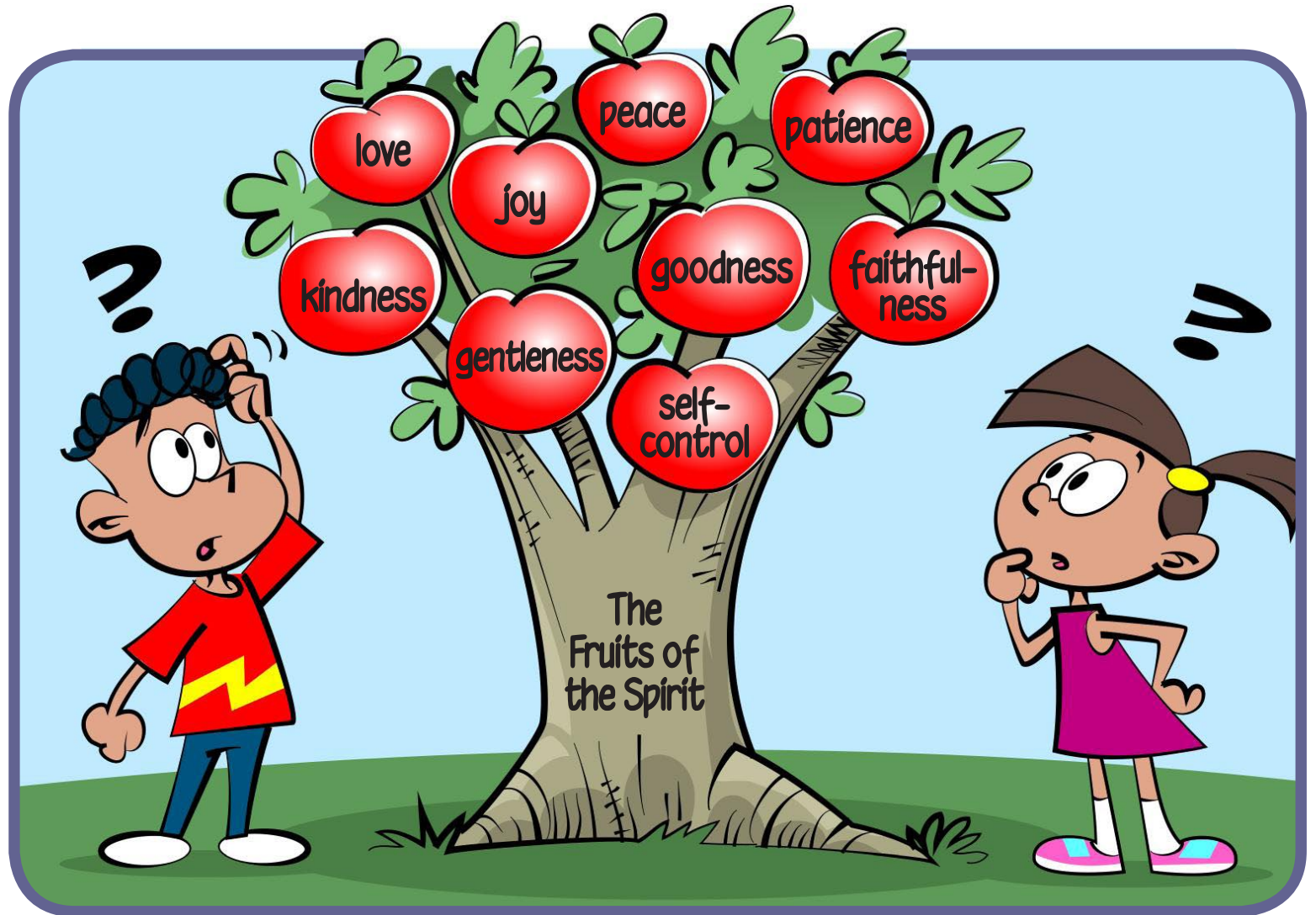


Why Learn About Fruit?

Why is it important to learn about “the fruits of the Spirit”?

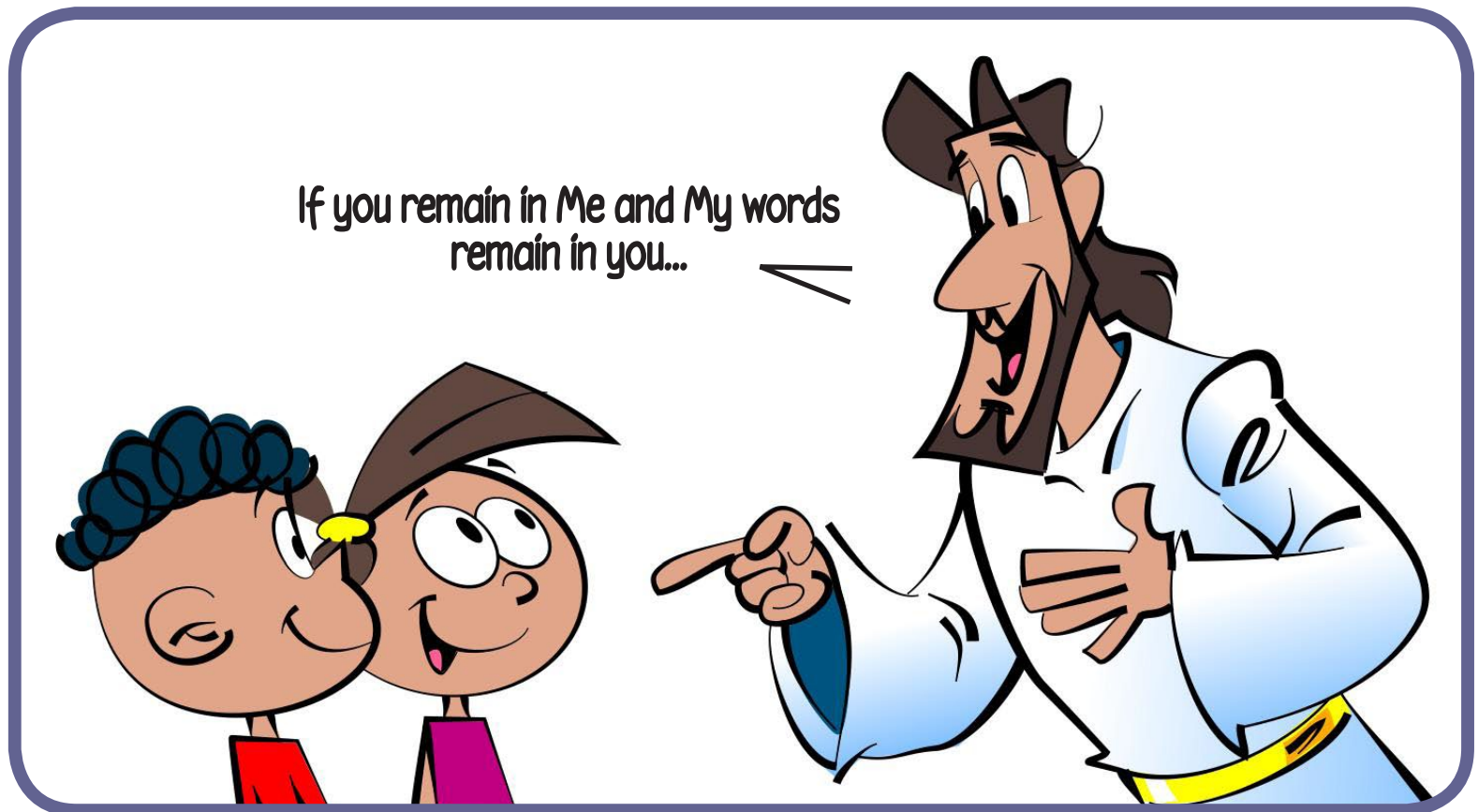
After all, if we’ve received Jesus as our Savior and He is abiding in us, won’t everything we do be perfect?



While God's Spirit is perfect, because we are human, we will sin and make mistakes.

Even when we receive Jesus, and His Spirit goes to work in our hearts to make us into new people, this doesn't mean that we will automatically be perfect and manifest all the fruits all at once or all of the time. Jesus knows that we can't do that, and He doesn't expect us to show forth all these awesome fruits (that Paul lists in Galatians 5:22-23) by ourselves, either—He said, “apart from me you

can do nothing” (John 15:5 NIV). But He also promises, “If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be given you” (John 15:7 NIV). So we know that we can ask to receive these fruits of His Spirit, and as we continue to grow closer to Jesus, He will help to develop these fruits in our lives.



Before gluing a piece
together, make sure it
fits well...



When we study God's Word, God's Spirit is then able to guide, counsel, and empower us in living godly lives that manifest the fruits of His Spirit.

God uses our studies of His Word to teach us the full beauty and necessity of the fruits of His Spirit. The more you know what these gifts are like, the more you'll be able to recognize them in your own life, and know when you are making decisions based on what God's Spirit wants you to do.



It is similar to how you'd go about studying up on how to create paper models, play your favorite computer game, or learn any new skill.

While you can dabble in learning something new without any book learning, in order to have the best results you need to put time into learning from the masters of the skills you want to acquire.



While Jesus promises His Spirit to all who receive Him into their lives, He also expects us to learn of Him—to learn how to be like Him.

We aren't magically transformed into "little Jesuses"; rather, He gives us the spiritual power to be more like Him. But unless we've studied to know what His Spirit looks like, we won't know how to act.

That's an important reason to learn about the fruits of the Spirit that Paul lists, so that we can know more about what God's Spirit is like and begin to make choices that will allow God's Spirit to reign in our lives.

Bite-sized: Study God's Word to learn how God's Spirit should be manifested in our lives.

Memorize it:

- Psalm 119:105

Action: Choose one fruit of the Spirit (mentioned in Galatians 5:22–23), and ask Jesus to tell you one way that you can manifest that fruit in your life today.



S&S link: Christian Life and Faith: Biblical and Christian Foundation: The Fruits of the Spirit-2c
Authored by R. A. Watterson. Illustrations by Zeb. Design by Christia Copeland.
Published by My Wonder Studio. Copyright © 2011 by The Family International