



SMALL GROUP LEADER GUIDE

BE REAL, NOT FAKE
WEEK 1 *DON'T FAKE IT*

Small Group Welcome

1. **Introduce** yourself, and **welcome** new kids by name.
2. Kids **share** what happened during the past week.
3. **Check up** on past week's prayer requests and events.
4. **Discuss** the question: **Which fruit is your favorite?**

Small Group Activity

You'll Need

Per Kid	1 Fruit of the Spirit Word Search 1 Crayon packet
Per Group	Nothing

After Activity

Kids Keep	Their word search
You Keep	Unwanted crayons (<i>throw away</i>)

To Do

Say: When you choose to follow Jesus, God's Holy Spirit grows the fruit of the Spirit in you. Let's see what you want Him to help you with the most.

1. **Give** each kid a Fruit of the Spirit Word Search.
2. **Read** each fruit of the Spirit out loud. Kids **secretly circle** one they want God to help them develop.
3. Kids **guess** which word each kid circled in their group.
4. Kids **reveal** which word they circled to the group.

Say: When you follow Jesus, God is already helping you grow the fruit of the Spirit! The more you get to know Him, the more it shows. Let's ask Him to help us keep growing!

Pray: God, please help us to choose to follow Jesus, to choose to get to know You better, and to choose to let the fruit of Your Spirit grow in us. In Jesus' name, amen.

5. **If time allows, complete** and **color** the word search.

Small Group Discussion

Say the point and Bible verse together.

Don't fake it. Let God's Holy Spirit change you.

Galatians 5:16 NIRV

... live by the Holy Spirit's power. Then you will not do what your sinful nature wants you to do.

1. **Whose power helps you say no to temptation and sin—yours or the Holy Spirit's?** *The Holy Spirit's*

Choose a few review questions.

1. **When you're trying really hard to be good all the time, how do you feel?** *Answers will vary.*
2. **How do you think you'll be able to tell that God is changing your heart?** *Answers will vary. Ideas: It might be easier to say no to sins and yes to living God's way, you might make more choices that show the fruit of the Spirit, etc.*
3. **What do you think it means to act fake?** *Answers will vary. Ideas: Pretending to be someone you're not, trying to make people believe you're happy and good when you feel bad inside, etc.*
4. **Talk about a time you acted good on the outside but you felt bad on the inside.** *Answers will vary.*

Choose an action step question.

1. **If you get tired of making good choices, what do you think can help you?** *Answers will vary. Ideas: Pray for God's help, talk to a trusted adult, etc.*
2. **Which fruit of the Spirit will you ask God to grow in you this week?** *Answers will vary. See word search for a list.*

Pray together.

1. **Ask** kids to share things they'd like to pray about.
2. **Write down** their prayer requests.
3. **Pray** together over the prayer requests.

Not sure what to pray? Pray this: God, please help us depend on You to change us from the inside out, instead of trying to be good on the outside. In Jesus' name, amen.

Check Out

Stay in small groups until kids are checked out.

1. Encourage **kids to talk** about what's on their mind and **decorate or finish** the word searches.
2. When a kid from your small group leaves, **say** something positive and specific to their family.
3. Tell parents to **take a pic** of the parent convo card at the door to help **continue the conversation** at home.

Please save questions on back for Small Group Discussion.