**NAME: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ CLUB \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**GUIDE CLASS**

*Spiritual Discovery: - 1. Discuss how the Christian can possess the gifts of the Spirit as described by Paul in his letter to the Galatians.*

There was once a very wise and noble king who sorted out from his property a beautiful site for a house, a garden, and an orchard. He built the house with his own hands and then put a fence around it and locked the gate with a large padlock. After looking everywhere in his kingdom for someone to live in this special house, he finally settled on a young man called William. However, we will call him “Will” for short. When they arrived together at the house, the king said to Will, “here it is; it’s yours to keep. All you have to do is keep it clean and plant the orchard. But make sure you keep the gate locked! Don’t let anyone in unless they are members of my family. If you need anything, that telephone is a direct line to my castle. “Call me for anything you want and I'll send it right down without delay.”

With that, the king was gone. Will, feeling rather excited about it all, looked over the house and checked out all the rooms; even the kitchen cupboards were full of food. It was late afternoon by the time Will had looked over all the property, and already he was deciding on how he would plant the orchard. He was down by the back fence when he heard a muffled voice.... “Don’t do it . . . don’t do it.” Will scanned the fence line to see where the voice came from, and seeing no one, called out loud “don’t do what?” “Don’t do all that work!” Came the reply. Then Will saw a tall, dark stranger standing outside the fence just near the gate. Will moved over a little closer and asked the stranger what he meant. “Don’t do all that work! That king is nothing more than a tyrant; he’ll make you work, work, work and then when the orchard is ready he’ll come down and take all the fruit. The only thing you’ll get out of it is a sore back!” “Oh,” said Will, “I didn’t think he was like that.” “Oh, yes he is,” said the stranger. “I’ve known him for a real long time, but if you let me in - I'll do the work. You can lie down on that bed there on the veranda, you can watch me! In no time I'll have the orchard up - you don’t have to do a thing, but you can help me gather the fruit and you can eat as much as you like.”

Well, Will was a little soft and he opened the gate to the stranger. And apparently the stranger had spoken the truth - he was a real worker, not a shirker! He knew how to dig, he knew how to raise trees, and soon the orchard was there and the fruit was ready to pick. “Come on Will, let’s sample the fruit.” The fruit looked so inviting as it glistened on the tree and Will could hardly wait to sink his teeth into all the different varieties. The very first one he tried was absolutely delicious, and the next even better - sort of like a combination mango, pineapple, and passion fruit. After he had eaten as much as he could, Will lay down on the veranda. The fruit felt like it had gone sour in his stomach. He was sick - real sick - so sick that he thought he would never eat again! But strangely enough, an hour or so later Will was hungry again and went back to the orchard for some more fruit. It was just as delicious as the first time, and he couldn’t understand why it had made him so sick before. However, it was only minutes after his last mouthful when that same sick feeling came back with a vengeance! Poor Will—he spent the rest of the day picking, eating, and being sick; picking, eating, and being sick. And that’s the way it went the next day and the next week and the next month. Will hated it, but he couldn’t resist it. One day he said to the stranger, “you’d better tell me the name of this fruit.” But the stranger wouldn’t tell. It was only after weeks of nagging that the stranger finally led Will down to the orchard and said, “here . . . this one I called impurity, this one is called lying, this one is disrespect, this one is stealing, this one is hate, envy, wrong thoughts, cheating . . .” and so the list went on.

Will couldn’t believe it! He rushed inside past the mirror where he saw for the first time that his face was changing - he was beginning to look like the stranger, whereas before he used to look a little bit like the king. Will was so angry that he ran out to the woodshed and grabbed his trusty axe. He was going to chop down every one of those trees even if it killed him. As he picked up the axe all rusty with age, he noticed these words written on the handle . . . “GOOD RESOLUTIONS.”

With great determination, Will ran out into the orchard and hacked into every tree until the orchard was completely gone. His hands were blistered and bleeding, his back was sore, but he sure felt good knowing all those trees were gone - all except the roots - they were still there! When Will woke up the next morning and looked out the window, he couldn’t believe his eyes. The trees were there just as big as ever before - and so were his blisters! And what’s more, Will was hungry and he couldn’t resist the fruit. Will was heart- broken—he was so sick and so tired. How he hated the stranger. One night Will noticed the warm glow of a lantern just outside the gate. He knew it wasn’t the stranger because he was inside. From the distance he was standing, he could tell that it wasn’t the king, but it sure looked like the king—perhaps it was the king’s son. As Will moved closer to the gate, he could see that something dreadful had happened to the prince, for the hand that held the lantern had a terrible scar. And as he examined the scars on his head and face, the prince spoke and said, “behold, I stand at the door and knock, if any man hear my voice and open the door, I will come in and live with him.” Hardly before the prince had finished, the stranger came running down the path shouting “don’t let him in! He will destroy all my work! Don’t let him in!” Well, that’s all Will needed to hear. Without hesitating, Will stepped forward and opened the gate, and as soon as the prince came in, the stranger went out.

The prince wasn’t about to waste any time, and he quickly led will down to the orchard and together they went around every tree. Wherever the prince held his lantern, the trees just shrivelled up and the fruit dropped off, and even though the roots were still there, the trees never grew back just as long as the prince was there. The prince explained to will, “it cannot be as it was with the stranger. This time we must work together.” It took longer for this orchard to get planted, but the trees were fantastic. And as they planted each one, the prince would say to will, “this one is love, and this one over here is truth, this one joy, and peace, gentleness, faith, self-control, purity . . .” and so the orchard grew. Will would want you to know that the fruit was delicious, and what’s more it didn’t make him sick . . . not one bit! And his face began to change once more to resemble the face of the king. However, will had one dreadful fear that caused a terrible ache in his heart. It worried him so much that he just had to ask the prince. “What would happen to me if you ever went astray? The prince just smiled and said, “will, I will never leave you or forsake you.” And the prince was true to his word.

Take time to identify and discuss the following items in particular:

1. Will’s name:
2. The gate:
3. The mirror:
4. The axe:
5. The lantern:
6. 6.Theprince’s promise:

**FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT AND SPIRTUAL GIFTS**

* What is the difference between the fruit of the spirit and the spiritual gift?

**HOW CAN THE CHRISTIAN POSSESS THE GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT?**

* Galatians 5: 13 -22
* 1 Corinthians 12: 1-11
* Ephisians 4:8-12