

Kids



FAN -OR- FOLLOWER



DID U KNOW?

Most people believe the word **FAN** is actually short for the word **FANATIC**. A **FANATIC** is someone who has a lot of enthusiasm for something. So... basically they're a **FAN**.

HOWEVER

Other people believe the word **FAN** is actually short for the word **FANCIER**. In Great Britain people will use the word **FANCY** to mean they desire something, but that desire may go away at some point.

Fancy some chocolate milk?



I'm a chocolate milk **FANATIC!!!**



Every sports team has **Fans** and **Followers**. But, did you know that you can also be a **Fan OR Follower** of Jesus? Jesus, really isn't into **Fans** so much; Jesus wants **Followers**. Jesus isn't looking for **Fans** who just sit and cheer—and say they are **Fans**! Those people walk away from Jesus when things get hard.

He is looking for people who will get into the game—follow Him and do the hard work he has asked us to do and truly know HIM. Our devotionals during this series are going to look a little different. We have designed them to help you dig deep and really ask yourself, “Am I a **Fan** or a **Follower** of Jesus?”.



You will need your Bible and maybe a journal for this devotional.

OPEN THAT BIBLE... AGAIN!

This week we learned about **Matthew 7:15-20**

Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves. By their fruit you will recognize them. Do people pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? Likewise, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them.

DIG DEEPER

Day 1: Jesus wants followers, not just fans.

Luke 9:23 • John 10:27

Day 2: Not everyone who says they believe in Jesus will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only those that do the will of God.

Matt. 7:21 • Mark 3:35

Day 3: Watch out for false prophets, who come in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ferocious wolves.

2 Peter 2:1

Day 4: Bad company corrupts good character.

1 Corinthians 15:33 • Psalm 1:1

Day 5: Good fruit is produced by true followers of Jesus.

Matt. 7:16-17 • Galatians 5:22-23

THINGS TO THINK (AND JOURNAL) ABOUT

- 1** Do you think it's important to be a fan or a follower of Jesus? Why?
- 2** Have you ever been around people who say they believe in God but don't act very nice? How did that make you feel?
- 3** What kind of fruit do you think you are producing in your life right now? Is it good fruit or bad fruit?
- 4** How can you tell if someone is a true follower of Jesus or a false prophet?
- 5** What can you do to make sure you are following Jesus and producing good fruit?

WHAT KIND OF FRUIT?

STEP 1

Think about the people you spend time with, such as friends, family members, and classmates.

STEP 2

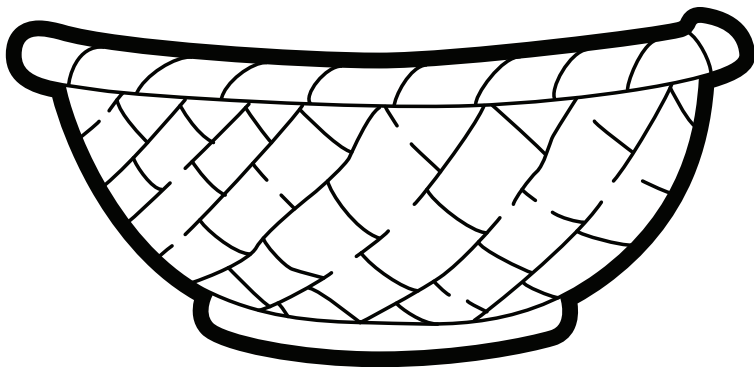
Draw pieces of fruit in the basket below. Write down the names of those people on each piece of fruit.

STEP 3

Ask yourself if the people you listed are good influences on you or if they lead you away from what God teaches.

STEP 4

If they are good influences, draw a smiley face on the fruit; if they are not, draw a frowning face.



Finally, take a moment to reflect on the fruit you drew with smiley faces and think about how you can spend more time with those people. For the fruit with frowning faces, think about how you can limit your time with those people or be a positive influence on them.