

KINGDOM LIFE

**OUTRAGEOUS HOPE
FOR ORDINARY LIFE**

“The Fruit of Relationship”

Sunday, June 23, 2019

Matthew 7:15-23

**A WORSHIP SERIES THROUGH
JESUS' SERMON ON THE MOUNT**

Matthew 7:15-23

“Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves. ¹⁶ You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? ¹⁷ So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. ¹⁸ A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit. ¹⁹ Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ²⁰ Thus you will recognize them by their fruits.



²¹ “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. ²² On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?’ ²³ And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.’



Psalm 1

Blessed is the man
who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,
nor stands in the way of sinners,
nor sits in the seat of scoffers;
² but his delight is in the law of the LORD,
and on his law he meditates day and night.
³ He is like a tree
planted by streams of water
that yields its fruit in its season,
and its leaf does not wither.
In all that he does, he prospers.

*Our Fuel
Our Fruit*

- *Diseased Trees bears
Diseased Fruit*
- *Healthy trees bear
Healthy Fruit*

Veruka Salt Bad Nut Clip

We all live out what we truly believe.

Fruit Inspector:

- Filter for “False Teachers”
 - Filter for Me



“They are testing to see if she’s a bad nut”

Matthew 7:15-23

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“but the diseased tree bears bad fruit”

Matthew 15:7-8

You hypocrites! Well did Isaiah prophesy of you, when he said:

⁸ This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me;

Claim to be followers of Christ but live self-centered, self-glorifying lives.

Don't see a need to be saved



“but the diseased tree bears bad fruit”

Bad Fruit

Why and How:

The point is not **WHAT** we do, but **WHY** and by **WHOSE POWER** we do it:

“Inwardly are ravenous wolves”

Producing:

Death for me and you



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Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name...I never knew you;

Fake Fruit

Claim to be followers of Christ and live an (outwardly) holy life, but have no real heart for Jesus

Why: *Guilty Shoulds* – so I won't feel bad about my self and others will feel good about me

How: Try harder



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Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name...I never knew you;

Fake Fruit

Producing:

Arrogance – I am more obedient than him

Entitlement – I deserve to be loved/blessed

Bitterness – When my paycheck doesn't come

See a need to be saved,
but believe that I can do it on my own



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So every healthy tree bears good fruit

Good Fruit



Love – upward and outward

Humble Repentance

Realize that I need to be saved from sin,
and rest in the Finished Work of Christ



So every healthy tree bears good fruit

Good Fruit

Galatians 5:22-26

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. ²⁴ And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

²⁵ If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. ²⁶ Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

We live outward

Our old-inward
has been crucified
with Jesus

Our new lives are
empowered by
the Spirit, not by
our own strength.

So every healthy tree bears good fruit

Good Fruit

Why:

Natural Response:

1 John 4:8

“We love because he first loved us”

How:

The Holy Spirit loving through me

“the fruit **OF** the Spirit”



So every healthy tree bears good fruit

Good Fruit

Producing:

- Life
- Worship and God's Glory
 - Others' Blessing
 - My Peace and Joy



We are a Bowl of Mixed Fruit

Romans 7:14-15, 21

For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold under sin. ¹⁵ For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ²¹ So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. ²² For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, ²³ but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. ²⁴ Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? ²⁵ Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!



²¹ “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. ²² On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?’ ²³ And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.’



"I never knew you"

How do I know?
Does Jesus Know me?

If you could have heaven, with no sickness, and with all the friends you ever had on earth, and all the food you ever liked, and all the leisure activities you ever enjoyed, and all the natural beauties you ever saw, all the physical pleasures you ever tasted, and no human conflict or any natural disasters, could you be satisfied with heaven, if Christ were not there? - John Piper



Theo-logical

John 5:39–40

“You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me, yet you refuse to come to me that you may have life.”

Theo-emotional

John 4:23

But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him.



Theo-relational

- Knowing About God, as revealed in all of Scripture
- Knowing the Heart of God, as exemplified on the Cross
 - Engaging the Life of God in our everyday life



Painfully Unsettling

This passage causes us to ask if our faith is merely religious moralism or spiritual emotionalism...and if we truly KNOW Jesus.

Warmly Comforting

This passage also assures us that, on our best and our worst days, the Gospel is enough because Jesus has paid the full price for mutual abiding.



How do I KNOW God?

Philippians 3:8

Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of **knowing Christ Jesus my Lord.**

John 15:4-10 (excerpts)

Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. ⁵ I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.

Groot Clip

I have been
beautifully made in
the image of God

Genesis 1
*So God created man
in his own image,
in the image of God
he created him;
male and female he
created them.*

Sin has destroyed
my roots and
leads to death

Romans 6:23
*For the wages of sin
is death, but the free
gift of God is eternal
life in Christ Jesus
our Lord.*

Jesus died on
the Cross on
my behalf

Romans 5:8
*but God shows
his love for us in
that while we
were still
sinners, Christ
died for us.*

Forgiveness and
Life are offered
by grace alone

Romans 10:9
*if you confess with
your mouth that
Jesus is Lord and
believe in your
heart that God
raised him from
the dead, you will
be saved.*



John 15:4-10 (excerpts)

⁸ By this my **Father is glorified**, that you **bear much fruit** and so prove to be my disciples. ⁹ As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. ¹¹ These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your **joy may be full**.

As I grow in my understanding of the infinite sacrificial love of Jesus, I will grow in how I love him back in worship and others in missions, resulting in inner-joy.

1 Corinthians 13:12

For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; **then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known**.