

Worship: What You Were Made For

Pastor Chris Engel – August 3, 2025

Mark 11:12-25 (NIV)

¹²The next day as they were leaving Bethany, Jesus was hungry. ¹³Seeing in the distance a fig tree in leaf, he went to find out if it had any fruit. When he reached it, he found nothing but leaves, because it was not the season for figs. ¹⁴Then he said to the tree, “May no one ever eat fruit from you again.” And his disciples heard him say it. ¹⁵On reaching Jerusalem, Jesus entered the temple courts and began driving out those who were buying and selling there. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the benches of those selling doves, ¹⁶and would not allow anyone to carry merchandise through the temple courts. ¹⁷And as he taught them, he said, “Is it not written: ‘My house will be called a house of prayer for all nations’? But you have made it a den of robbers.” ¹⁸The chief priests and the teachers of the law heard this and began looking for a way to kill him, for they feared him, because the whole crowd was amazed at his teaching. ¹⁹When evening came, Jesus and his disciples went out of the city. ²⁰In the morning, as they went along, they saw the fig tree withered from the roots. ²¹Peter remembered and said to Jesus, “Rabbi, look! The fig tree you cursed has withered!” ²²“**Have faith in God,**” Jesus answered. ²³“Truly I tell you, if anyone says to this mountain, ‘Go, throw yourself into the sea,’ and does not doubt in their heart but believes that what they say will happen, it will be done for them.” ²⁴Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours. ²⁵And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive them, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins. “

♦ Jesus is no fan of Religion! (vs. 13, 15-17, 20-21; Psalm 51:15-17; Revelation 3:17-20)

“The tree was cursed for its pretense of leaves, not for its lack of fruit. Like Israel in the days of Jesus, it had the outward form but no fruit. In this picture, Jesus warned Israel — and us — of God’s displeasure when we have the appearance of fruit but not the fruit itself. God isn’t pleased when His people are all leaves and no fruit.” Guzik

♦ You were made to worship God. (vs. 22; 1 Corinthians 6:17-20)

♦ Worship begins with a real relationship with God. (Matthew 15:7-11, 15-20; Ephesians 3:14-19)

♦ At the heart of worship is Faith, Humility, Repentance, and Forgiveness. (vs. 22-25; John 1:12)

What were you made for...?

YOU WERE MADE FOR HIM!