

The Power of the Blessing Part 4

There is another Story about a Fig Tree

Luke 13

6 Then (Jesus) told this parable: “A man had a fig tree growing in his vineyard, and he went to look for fruit on it but did not find any. **7** So he said to the man who took care of the vineyard, ‘For three years now I’ve been coming to look for fruit on this fig tree and haven’t found any. Cut it down! Why should it use up the soil?’

8 “‘Sir,’ the man replied, ‘leave it alone for one more year, and I’ll dig around it and fertilize it. **9** If it bears fruit next year, fine! If not, then cut it down.’”

- He digs around it...
 - He Cultivates it ...
 - He Fertilizes it...
 - He Blesses it rather than Curse it...
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- This shows a picture of the Father who owns the Vineyard and looks for fruit... and also the patience of God that gives the fig tree another chance...
 - The man who owned the vineyard is the Father. The one who tends to the fig tree is Jesus, (our intercessor - Heb 7:25) and the working of the Holy Spirit.
 - Every Parable Jesus told was to illustrate a spiritual truth in reference to people, the Kingdom of God and Eternity. This Parable was no different. This wasn't about a fig tree but how God is gracious towards us, yet expects that we will bare good fruit.

- This shows that time and time again God desires Mercy over Sacrifice...

The Fruit that God looks for is what you would expect from a fig tree:

He Plants it

He Waters it

He Nourishes it

He Fertilizes it

and expects something good will come from the good he gives...

Genesis 12:2

“I will make you into a great nation,
and I will bless you;
I will make your name great,
and **you will be a blessing.**”

- God is pleased when the thing he pours out comes back to him...

John 4

23 Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. 24 God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.”

God is Spirit and Truth...

What Kind of Worship does he desire? The kind that is a reflection of himself...

The Father seeks those who will worship him in Spirit and Truth...

He gives us his Spirit and Truth so we, worship him back in the same way...

I will Bless You and You will be a Blessing

From the Holy Spirit comes the Fruit of the Spirit... *Galatians 5*
God gives us his Holy Spirit and His Spirit bears fruit in us...
This pleases the Lord...

I will Bless You and You will be a Blessing

John 15

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener. **2** He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit he prunes so that it will be even more fruitful. **3** You are already clean because of the word I have spoken to you. **4** Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.

5 “I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. **6** If you do not remain in me, you are like a branch that is thrown away and withers; such branches are picked up, thrown into the fire and burned.

7 If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. **8** This is to my Father’s glory, that you bear much fruit

- Jesus digs around it...
- He Cultivate it ...
- He Fertilizes it...
- He Blesses it rather than Curse it...

Story: Pastor Kilpatrick and the Orchestra Pit

The Lord said to Pastor Kilpatrick, “if you want it to change, stop cursing it and start blessing it!”

Proverbs 18:21

The tongue has the power of life and death and those who love it will eat its fruit.

- If we want something to change, take a lesson from the Gardener
- Stop cursing it and start blessing it!”
- Dig around it... Cultivating it... Fertilize it... Bless it...

How about your Marriage?

How about your Family?

How about your Children?

How about your School Work?

How about your Job?

How about your Friendships?

“if you want it to change, stop cursing it and start blessing it!”

Dig around it...

Cultivating it...

Fertilize it...

Bless it...

In the Beginning:

God **blessed** (His Creation)

He said, “Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the water in the seas, and let the birds increase on the earth.” *Genesis 1:22*

God **blessed** mankind:

He said to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground.” *Genesis 1:28*

Everything God does

Everything God starts he blesses

The thief comes to still, kills and destroys but Jesus gives life and life more abundant.

If you want something to change, stop cursing it and start blessing it...

Closing Song:

James 3

8 But no man can tame the tongue. *It is* an unruly evil, full of deadly poison. **9** With it we bless our God and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in the image of God. **10** Out of the same mouth proceed blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not to be so.