

## Palm Sunday Sermon: Repentance, Restoration, and Bearing Fruit

### Key Takeaways:

1. Jesus weeps over Jerusalem's blindness to true peace and coming destruction.
2. God gets angry at injustice, especially when it's done in His name.
3. The fig tree parable symbolizes the fruitlessness of the temple and serves as a warning.
4. God desires us to bear fruit through faith and forgiveness.
5. Our lives should be connected to Jesus (the vine) to bear lasting fruit.

### Discussion Questions:

1. The sermon mentions that repentance is a choice. What makes repentance difficult for people? How have you experienced the blessings of repentance in your own life?
2. Jesus wept over Jerusalem because the people misunderstood His purpose. In what ways do people today misunderstand Jesus' mission and message?
3. The sermon states that our sense of justice comes from being created in God's image. How does this perspective change the way we view injustice in the world?
4. Discuss the living parable of the fig tree. How does this story relate to our lives as followers of Christ?
5. Jesus encourages his disciples to have audacious faith. What "mountain-moving" prayers have you been hesitant to ask God? How can we cultivate this kind of faith?
6. The sermon compares forgiveness to oxygen for our souls. How have you experienced the freedom that comes from forgiving others? What makes forgiveness challenging?
7. How can we assess whether our lives are bearing the fruit God desires? What does this fruit look like in practical terms?

### Practical Applications:

1. This week, take time to examine your life for areas where repentance is needed. Pray for God's guidance in this process.
2. Identify one "mountain" in your life or community that seems impossible to move. Commit to praying boldly about this situation for the next month.
3. If you're holding onto unforgiveness, take steps to release it. This might involve journaling, talking with a trusted friend, or seeking counseling if needed.
4. Create a "fruit inventory" of your life. List the ways you see God's work manifesting in your actions, attitudes, and relationships. Also note areas where you'd like to see more growth.
5. As a group, brainstorm ways you can address injustice in your local community. Choose one actionable step to implement in the coming weeks.
6. Spend time in prayer, asking God to deepen your connection to Him as the true vine. Be open to His pruning work in your life to increase fruitfulness.

