

Stories of Jesus
Parable of the Barren Fig Tree
November 26, 2023

Luke 13:1-9 Now there were some present at that time who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mixed with their sacrifices. Jesus answered, “Do you think that these Galileans were worse sinners than all the other Galileans because they suffered this way? I tell you, no! But unless you **repent**, you too will all perish. Or those eighteen who died when the tower in Siloam fell on them—do you think they were more guilty than all the others living in Jerusalem? I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish.” Then he 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. 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?’ “‘Sir,’ the man replied, ‘**leave it alone for one more year, and I’ll dig around it and fertilize it.** If it **bears fruit** next year, fine! If not, then **cut it down.**’”

3 Characters in the Story:

- ✓ Man who owns the Vineyard = _____
- ✓ Vinedresser = _____
- ✓ Tree = _____

1. We all need the _____ of God.

Psalm 145:8 The Lord is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and rich in love.

Ephesians 2:4-5 But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved.

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2. Bear _____ or be _____ down.

Key Thought: Am I bearing good _____?

John 15:5 “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.”

3. Repent.

2 Corinthians 7:9-10 ...yet now I am happy, not because you were made sorry, but because your sorrow led you to repentance. For you became sorrowful as God intended and so were not harmed in any way by us. Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but worldly sorrow brings death.

Key Thought: Repentance: The act of changing one's _____.

4. Jesus is trying to _____ us.

Romans 2:4 Or do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness, forbearance and patience, not realizing that God's kindness is intended to lead you to repentance?

2 Peter 3:9-10 The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare.

Walk away: Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of _____ may come from the Lord. (Acts 3:19) God is calling us to a life of repentance.

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