

# Sermon Guide



## **"The Tree and Its Fruits"** **May 1, 2022**

*"Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters... Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or make the tree bad and its fruit bad, for the tree is known by its fruit..."*

**Matthew 12:22-49**

In this Sunday's teaching, Greg challenged the modern conception of Jesus and spoke of how the Gospels do not leave room for neutrality. Instead, in their portrayal of Kingdom life as either/or, they unapologetically propel the reader toward a decision. Sheep or goat. Wheat or weed. Light or dark. Blessing or cursing.

As you read through this passage, begin by asking yourself, "Where in my life and world am I neutral about Jesus?" Then, spend time praying through the passage and questions below:

- 1. Read Matthew 12:22.** How am I blind and mute, and how has Jesus healed me?
- 2. Read Matthew 12:30.** Where am I "gathering" with Jesus? (If you're a Christian, you have a spiritual gift for the service of the saints. Ask Him to clearly show you where you are to serve and then follow through.)
- 3. Read Matthew 12:36-37.** What are the places where I've been careless with my words?
- 4. Read Matthew 12:38-42.** Where do I ask for a sign that indicates my unbelief?
- 5. Read Matthew 12:43-45.** What has been swept clean and put in order in my life but not filled with Christ?
- 6. We often talk about taking your next step of faith with Jesus.** As you reflect on this week's teaching, what is the next step of faith you'll commit to?