



Small Group Questions
Mark 11:12-14, 20-25 “On Fig Trees and Faithfulness”
August 1, 2021

RECAP: Jesus fulfills the outdated temple sacrificial system, establishing an open pathway between us and God. He calls his followers to live devoted lives that bear fruit consistently, not to be confused with a good outward appearance while lacking spiritual substance. Instead of rightly cursing us in our sin, Jesus became a curse on our behalf (Galatians 3:13).

1. ICEBREAKER: What’s a food some people like that you can’t stand?
2. It’s good to pause every few weeks and remind ourselves what God has taught us recently. Speaking especially of the last 3 weeks, what’s one thing God has taught/encouraged you with through Weston/Jake/Gary’s sermons?
3. How might you respond to someone who criticizes Jesus as being too harsh in his response to the fig tree? What is he trying to teach us through this?
4. Here’s the list Steven presented of possible examples of a fruitless Christ-follower (oxymoron). What one(s) do you most identify with? What would you add/take away from the list?
 - a. Cares more about what people think than what God thinks
 - b. Cares more about politics than Jesus
 - c. Spends hours on social media every day but doesn’t have time for God’s Word
 - d. Holds onto money instead of giving generously
 - e. Chooses anxiety over trust
 - f. Is too busy and hurried for the unplanned movement of God**
 - g. Consistently discontent
5. Steven gave these 3 markers of a fruitful Christ-follower. Which one(s) do you see the most evidence of in your life? Which one(s) do you need to take a step of growth in?
 - a. Christ-centered (all belongs to Christ because all comes from Christ)
 - b. Outward-focused (How can I make a spiritual difference in the life of someone else?)
 - c. Belongs to a family of Faith (I need others – and they might need me)
6. Consider these 4 commands from Jesus from v. 20-27. Which one(s) do you see the most evidence of in your life? Which one(s) do you need to take a step of growth in?

- a. Have faith in God (v.22)
- b. Pray (v.23-24)
- c. Forgive others (v.25)
- d. Receive forgiveness from God (v.25)

7. *Close in prayer – consider splitting up in men and women to share more openly how you can pray for one another.*****