

Roots to Fruits: Tree to Tree

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Galatians 5:22-23 “But the fruit of the Spirit [the result of His presence within us] is love [unselfish concern for others], joy, [inner] peace, patience [not the ability to wait, but how we act while waiting], kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such things there is no law.”

1. HOW TO BETTER UNDERSTAND YOUR FRUIT:

- 1.1.** To better understand the spiritual fruit, we need to look at the first tree humanity encountered and its alteration on our destiny. The first tree was the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.
- 1.2.** Adam and Eve ate from the forbidden tree and the fall followed. The problem here was not just eating a fruit; it was that the fruit represented knowledge about good and evil without mentoring and guidance from God.
- 1.3.** They consumed a rulebook that left no room for God to guide them. God should have been their guide not a tree. A relationship should have been the place from which they learned morality and not a religious law-based mind-set.
- 1.4.** Thankfully, Jesus redeemed the curse that was placed on humanity and redeemed us from the curse of the Law and its condemnation by becoming a curse for us.

Galatians 3:13 “Cursed is everyone who hangs [crucified] on a tree.”

- 1.5.** It all started with a tree and ended on one. This final tree, however, restored our relationship with the source of all knowledge — God became our guide again.

2. HOW TO LIVE WITH GOD AS YOUR GUIDE:

- 2.1.** Be led by Holy Spirit and not a rulebook - We have direct access to the Holy Spirit, we have a relationship with Him. All we need to do is talk to Him and then take time to be still and hear from Him.

Romans 6:14 “For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace”

Hebrews 12:10 “They disciplined us for a little while as they thought best; but God disciplines us for our good, in order that we may share in his holiness. 11 No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it.”

John 14:16-17 “And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever — the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.”

Galatians 5:25, “Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.”

Romans 8:15 “And you did not receive the “spirit of religious duty,” leading you back into the fear of never being good enough. But you have received the “Spirit of full acceptance,” enfolding you into the family of God. And you will never feel orphaned, for as he rises up within us, our spirits join him in saying the words of tender affection, “Beloved Father!”

2.2. Share your fruit unconditionally - We are called to be a disciple and make disciples.

Matthew 10:8 “Freely you have received, freely give.”

Matthew 9:37-38 “Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.”

2.3. Remain fruitful to His process - Be intentional with your life and what God has called you to be.

James 1: 2-4 (NLT) “Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.”

2 Timothy 2:13 “If we are faithless, He remains faithful, for He cannot deny Himself.”

1 Corinthians 9:24-27 (TPT) “Isn’t it obvious that all runners on the racetrack keep on running to win, but only one receives the victor’s prize? Yet each one of you must run the race to be victorious. A true athlete will be disciplined in every respect, practicing constant self-control in order to win a laurel wreath that quickly withers. But we run our race to win a victor’s crown that will last forever. For that reason, I don’t run just for exercise or box like one throwing aimless punches, but I train like a champion athlete. I subdue my body and get it under my control, so that after preaching the good news to others I myself won’t be disqualified.”

Sermon Discussion Guide

OPEN YOUR GROUP WITH A PRAYER. THIS IS ONLY A GUIDE – SELECT THE POINTS YOU WANT TO DISCUSS.

1. Do you feel like you are living your life according to a “rule book” or do you allow yourself to be led by Holy Spirit?
2. Are you willing to share your fruit freely - even to those who might not appreciate or deserve it?
3. How can you, personally, be more intentional with your life and what God has called you for?