SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

"What is Your Fruit?" - Pastor Chad Gilligan

7.28.24

1) Have you ever taken a stance on something you believed to be true but later discovered you were wrong? How did you react when you discovered what you thought was wrong?

Read Matthew 12:30 – "Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters."

- 2) Where have you struggled with being a "fence sitter" in your life?
- 3) How could you encourage someone who is on the fence about their faith? If you have been in that season before, what helped you?

Read Matthew 12:33-35 – "Make a tree good and its fruit will be good, or make a tree bad and its fruit will be bad, for a tree is recognized by its fruit. 34 You brood of vipers, how can you who are evil say anything good? For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of. 35 A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in him, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in him."

- 4) Why are words such a large sign of the fruit in our lives?
- 5) Have you ever said something you later regretted? Why did you regret them?
- 6) How do your words impact your future?

Read Matthew 12:38-39 – "Then some of the Pharisees and teachers of the law said to him, "Teacher, we want to see a sign from you." 39 He answered, "A wicked and adulterous generation asks for a sign! But none will be given it except the sign of the prophet Jonah."

7) Have you ever experienced a situation where the motives for the experience were not pure? What happened?

Read John 15:14-16 – "You are my friends if you do what I command. 15 I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. 16 You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you."

8) How do you know you are following Jesus?