

Parable of the Fig Tree
The Best is Yet to Come! - Part 7
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Text: Luke 13:6-9 (NKJV)

A. Five principles of producing.

Parable: Is all about the question. Are we producing what we were created to produce?

1. The tree is planted with purpose.
 - i. The Fig tree is planted in the middle of a vineyard.
2. The Master is urgent and he is patient.
 - i. He waited three years for the Fig tree to bear fruit.

Isaiah 5:2 (NLT)

- ii. The best preparations had been made but expectations had not been met.
 - iii. Urgency provides motivation Patience allows time to grow and adapt.
3. The Vineyard keeper cares deeply for the tree.

Romans 8:34 (NLT)

- i. He is fighting for us where we are not producing.
 - ii. Pleads for more time...leave it alone...give me another year!
 - iii. The vineyard keeper makes the audacious statement of hope of a better future.
4. The Tree has to be pruned.
 - i. Leave it alone for one more year, and I will dig around the tree and I will fertilize it.

ii. I will do the hard things that it takes to produce something from this tree.

iii. In our lives, we need pruning as well.

John 15:1-2 (NLT)

iv. Pruning is hard for the vineyard-keeper, and for the tree.

v. We need the pressure and the pain to become all that God intends for us to be.

James 1:2-4 (NLT)

5. Activation leads to production.

i. It always takes action on our part as well as the touch of God.

Question: What would fruitfulness look like in your life?
What are you doing that counts for eternity?

Next Steps: Today I am:

1. Committing my life to Christ
2. Asking God to give me the ability for sustained hope that leads to action.
3. Accepting the pruning process in my life.
4. Asking God to give me the sustaining hope that the best is yet to come.