

Danger of a Dead Heart - Let's Go
Mark 11:12-25
11-7-21

I. Expected Fruit: We Must Bear Fruit

1. Our faith is like a fruit tree. (Hosea 9:10)
2. Why must we bear fruit?
 - a) Reveals identity.
 - b) Reveals quality.
 - c) Reveals character of the planter.

II. Counterfeit Fruit: We Must Weed Out False Fruit

1. Counterfeit fruit is really like thorns. (Mark 4:14-19).
2. What has a strangle hold on your soul?
 - a) Promise of the know it all - intellectual prowess (1 Corinthians 8:1)
 - b) Promise of the have it all - preferential power (Mark 10:42-45, Philippians 2:4)
 - c) Promise of the do it all - moral performance (Galatians 3:10)

III. Powerful Fruit: We Must Bear Witness

1. Jesus' challenge
 - a) Have faith, God is committed to you (John 7:38, 15:5)
 - b) Pray in faith, God can rescue
 - c) Forgive in faith, God will be seen
2. Jesus' vision (Matthew 13:31-32)

Going Deeper This Week

1. What about Jesus' metaphor in Matthew 13:31-32 captures your heart?
2. Consider the following spiritual practices and God's intention for them. How does this change the way you engage in spiritual practices today? Sacrifice (Psalm 51:16-17); Prayer/fasting (Isaiah 58:3-7); Circumcision of the heart (Deuteronomy 10:16); Covenant (Jeremiah 31:33) - Bible reading (John 15:7-8), church attendance (Hebrews 10: 24-25), small group gatherings (Acts 20:20), sharing your story of faith (Mark 16:15).
3. What has a strangle hold on your soul during this season? Where do you need Spiritual strength? Where do you sense yourself resisting/replacing His relentless love for you?
4. Who do you need to forgive and release?
5. Where is God calling you to faithfully bear witness about His unrelenting love? Pray for someone!