

Deeper Life Notes

Jesus Serves: "Looking for Fruit" (Mark 11:1-25)

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Watertown
Evangelical
Free Church

WARM UP

"A prayerless person is a godless person is a fruitless person... A prayerful person is a God-full person is a fruitful person." - Bob Bakke, EFCA National Prayer Initiator

READ

Mark 11:1-25

* THREE FAILED SEARCHES FOR FRUIT:

1. NO FRUIT AMONG _____¹ (vv1-11)

CELEBRATION

"Fans" have expectations:

a) about the PAST (Zechariah 9:9, Isaiah 62:11)

b) about the PRESENT (Psalm 118:25-26) Hosanna = "Lord, save us, please!"

c) about the FUTURE (2 Kings 9:13)

Unmet expectations bring change: bitter or better? acceptance or rejection?

(Mark 14:50,66-70,15:13)

APPLY

Faith is more than fanfare!

(1 Corinthians 13:7, 1 Timothy 4:16, Matthew 24:39-41)

2. NO FRUIT AMONG THE _____² (vv.12-14) CURSE

- Object Lesson - Judgment: Isaiah 34:4, Jeremiah 29:7, Matthew 13:1 - Today: John 15:4

Warning: Fruitlessness ends in judgment & death

¹ "FANS"

² FIG LEAVES

3. NO FRUIT IN THE _____³ COMMUNITY (vv.15-19)

CONFRONTATION/CONDEMNATION

The Plan: Temple a place of worship & prayer for all nations (Jeremiah 7:11)

The Problem: Price gouging & thoroughfare (shortcut)

APPLY

Prioritize the church and our lives as a place all people can **find & follow** Jesus!
(Matthew 16:8, Revelation 2:4-5)

* HOW TO BE A FRUITFUL FOLLOWER OF JESUS: CONFIDENCE

1. CULTIVATE FAITH (vv.20-24)

Why? a) We are commanded to (v.22, John 15:5)

b) Fruitlessness is condemned (vv.20-21, Romans 14:23)

How? a) Faith comes from hearing God's word (Romans 10:17, Ephesians 1:13)

b) Faith comes from believing God's word (v.23a, John 1:12, Romans 10:9)

c) Faith comes from battling doubt (v.23b, Matthew 21:21, James 1:6)

d) Faith comes from praying (v.24, Matthew 21:22)

2. CULTIVATE _____⁴ (v.25)

- One experience at a time

- Love your enemies!

***God isn't looking for leaves. He's looking for fruit - fruit that will last!**

³ FAITH

⁴ FORGIVENESS