



Sermon on the Mount: Bearing Fruit

Sunday, April 24, 2016

We encounter words from Jesus that are unsettling, sobering, and carry potential to cause anxiety in his listeners. Keep in mind that God always confronts with an invitation. He wants our anxious thoughts to lead us towards Him and the Grace He offers.

- *What is a hard, but ultimately necessary, conversation you’ve had recently? Spend time talking through what made the conversation difficult, to whom was it with, and what was the outcome of the talk?*

Read **Matthew 7:15-20** together as a group.

- *How do these 5 verses relate to what we read in the earlier portions of the Sermon on the Mount?*
- *What does “good fruit” and “bad fruit” look like in someones life?*
- *Reflecting on our own lives, why is examining our own heart for "good fruit" so important?*

Read **Matthew 7:21-23** together as a group.

- *Why do words like this from Jesus prove so unsettling to our hearts?*
- *How is our own heart tempted by good works? Both in others and our own lives?*
- *How do good words potentially lead us to ignoring our self-righteousness, selfishness and pride?*

It is only through the Lord and what he give that we are redeemed. It is through no work of our own that we have intimacy with Father God, only through the saving grace of Jesus that we are adopted.

- *Under what circumstances could we do good works and yet still have Jesus say, “I never knew you...”?*

As a group, take time to talk openly about your initial response to Jesus’ words and the sermon from this weekend. This could prove a great time to show mercy to those most in need of it, and let our own anxiety drive us closer to a place of real relationship and intimacy with Jesus.