

Bear Good Fruit

Scripture Focus: Luke 6:43–45 (A Tree and Its Fruit)

⁴³ “No good tree bears bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit. ⁴⁴ Each tree is recognized by its own fruit. People do not pick figs from thornbushes, or grapes from briars. ⁴⁵ A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of.

Summary

This value highlights that our external life (our words, reactions, and behaviors) reflects our internal heart. Just as a tree is recognized by its fruit, a disciple is known by the consistent outcome of their life. To bear good fruit, we need to concentrate on the root of the heart, ensuring it is nourished by the Spirit so that our natural output is goodness instead of bitterness or dishonesty.

Inward

- How do we bear good fruit? What does that look like for yourself in your own context?
- Jesus says the mouth speaks what the heart is full of. If someone recorded your conversations from the past week, what would the "fruit" of your words reveal about the current state of your heart?
- What "nutrients", such as spiritual disciplines, specific influences, or media, are you currently feeding your soul, and how are they affecting the quality of your fruit?
- Where do you see "thorns or briars" (v. 44) growing in your life, unhealthy patterns or recurring sins, that need to be surrendered to God for pruning?

Outward

- How does this value of bearing good fruit challenge our current church culture, and what would it look like for us to embody this more fully in our local neighbourhood?
- What is one way we can hold each other accountable or support one another in living out this value as a community this week?

Prayer Focus

- Pray that we can be active participants in God’s mission and bear good fruit through our lives.
- Ask Jesus to prune the bitterness or pride that has been growing in our hearts.
- Jesus fill us with your Spirit so that when we speak and act this week, the fruit of our lives would point to Your goodness.