

June 24, 2018

Lesson 12

What Fruit Do You Bear? - Matthew 7:13-23

1. Jesus makes mention of fruits, harvest, crops and other agricultural references in the Gospel accounts. Why do you think He does this and what can the audience take away from His parallel?

2. In Galatians Paul lists out the “Fruits of the Spirit” (Gal. 5:22-23) and the “Works of the Flesh” (Gal 5:19-21). List both and be prepared to discuss the differences and examples of how we can bear good fruit vs. bad fruit. (You may need a dictionary to define a few on these list.)

3. Is it possible to produce no fruit? What might the dangers be with not bearing fruit at all?

4. Jesus warns the audience to beware of “false prophets”. Who might He be referring to? What groups might be considered “false prophets” today? Look at the chart below and read the corresponding passages. Be prepared to discuss these groups.

Type of False Teacher:	Scripture:	Application/Warning:
“The Heretic”	2 Peter 2:1	
“The Charlatan”	1 Timothy 6:3-5	
“The Prophet”	1 John 4:1	
“The Abuser”	2 Peter 2:2	
“The Divider”	Jude 18-21	
“The Ear Tickler”	2 Timothy 4:3-4	
“The Speculator”	1 Timothy 1:3, 6:20-21	

(Original Article: <https://www.challies.com/articles/7-false-teachers-in-the-church-today/>)

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5. Paul warns Timothy in his letters about these false prophets. Why do we, like Timothy, need to be on the guard against false teachers?

6. THOUGHT QUESTION: Do you think our fruit is easily recognizable as Jesus mentions in vs 16 & 20?

7. What is the tie between the section about false prophets/ good vs. bad fruit (7:15-20) and the section, immediately following, "I never knew you" section (7:21-23)?

8. How could someone who is "prophesying", "casting out demons" and "doing many mighty works" in Jesus name not be accepted into God's kingdom?

9. What do these unacceptable works (listed in Q6) look like for us today?