

- Read Matthew 3:8-12. John the Baptist is talking to the Pharisees here. How would the Pharisees see a difference between John and Jesus?

- We are clearly called to produce fruit. How do you avoid the trap of earning God's love (versus effort in response to it)?

- What are some things your small group can help you unroot as you move to replace it with new God-given truths?

Missional Application

God calls us to bear the fruit of repentance and mission, fulfilling our purpose as his people.

Christ Connection

The story implies that God is the vineyard owner, Jesus is the owner's son, and the religious leaders are the ones who have rejected God's Word. Applying Psalm 118 to himself, Jesus saw himself as the cornerstone—the person in whom salvation comes. God has wiped the slate clean with the blood of his Son.

SERMON APPLICATION GUIDE

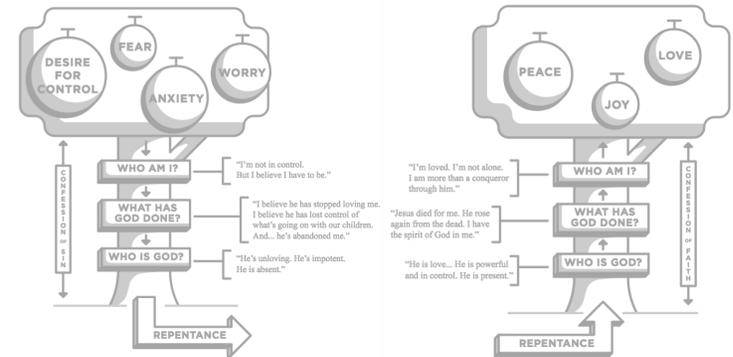
Jesus the Story-teller (Part 5) "3 Ways to Make Real Change Stick" Matthew 21:33-46

3 Ways to Make Real Change Stick

- Seek out the _____ of bad _____.

The root of their bad behavior was in their _____.

Following Jesus is not about moral _____; it's about producing fruit as a result of our relationship with God.



2. Use Kingdom _____.

It is _____ that leads to good fruit and _____ that leads to bad fruit.

3. Get out the _____ and into the _____.

The gallery is just for _____; the garden is for _____.

Family Discussion Questions

1. Talk about some bad fruit that keeps sprouting in your family.
2. What parts of our life as a family are we building our kingdom versus Jesus' Kingdom?
3. Discuss some ways you have experienced God.

Personal Reflection & Small Group Questions

Please complete this study on your own, then bring it to your small group for discussion.

1. Looking back over your notes from this week's sermon, what particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
2. When changing a habit or getting rid of some bad fruit in your life, what have been some common bad roots stopping you?
3. Read Matthew 22:1-14. What goes through your mind as you read this parable in light of the vineyard one?
4. Read Isaiah 5:1-7. How does this passage inform your view of the vineyard parable?