

Eastridge Church  
Sermon Study Questions

Series - Mark: The Untold Story of Jesus

Week 35: Where's the Fruit?

Passage: Mark 11:1-25



Conversation Starter:

*Do you have a favorite fruit or vegetable? Describe what you like about it and why you chose it?*

**Re-read Mark 11:1-25**

As chapter 11 opens (vs 1-11), Jesus is about to enter Jerusalem. This is something that His followers have been fearfully anticipating (Mark 10:32), because they know the powder keg that awaits them. Before he enters, he makes what seems like a strange request to his disciples. *Why did Jesus make this request? What does it point to and why did people react the way they did? (hint: Zechariah 9:9-10) Why do you think Mark included it in his gospel account?*

Chris rightly pointed out that the story of the cursed fig tree (vs12-14) can be very confusing to readers. A passage like this highlights the importance of interpreting a passage within its context. *Describe in your own words the connection between the fig tree and the temple. What should the temple have been for the Jewish people and the surrounding nations and what had it become? What did the state of the temple say about its leadership?*

The Bible often speaks of a believer's relationship with God in agricultural terms (ie. growth, planting, seeds, fruit). **Read John 15:1-8.** *With this imagery in mind, how would you describe your relationship with God over the course of the past week or month? What does the passage say is the key to being "fruitful"? What challenges are you facing right now that make this difficult? **Read John 15:9-14.** What are Jesus' instructions about how we are to abide in Him?*

*Finally, close your time in prayer, asking that Jesus would give us the strength to abide in Him and love others like He loves us. By doing so, we join Him in bringing about His Kingdom that produces the only fruit that lasts.*

**Resources to dig deeper:**

- [Abide in Christ](#) by Andrew Murray