

WHOLE LIFE EMPHASIS



A FRUITFUL LIFE

Matthew 12:33-37

MATTHEW 12:33-37 (ESV)

33 “Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or make the tree bad and its fruit bad, for the tree is known by its fruit.

34 You brood of vipers! How can you speak good, when you are evil? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.

35 The good person out of his good treasure brings forth good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure brings forth evil.

36 I tell you, on the day of judgment people will give account for every careless word they speak,

37 for by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.”

PSALM 1:1-3 (ESV)

1 Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers;

2 but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night.

He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.

3 The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.

JEREMIAH 17:5-8 (ESV)

5 Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength,
whose heart turns away from the LORD.

6 He is like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see any good come.

He shall dwell in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt
land.

7 “Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD.

8 He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream,
and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green, and is not
anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit.”

What is the key to a fruitful life?

MATTHEW 12:33 (ESV)

33 “Either make the tree good and the fruit good, or make the tree bad and the fruit bad, for the tree is known by its fruit.”

MATTHEW 12:34 (ESV)

34 You brood of vipers! How can you speak good, when you are evil?
For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.

MATTHEW 7:15 (ESV)

15 “Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves.

MATTHEW 12:34 (ESV)

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For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.

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Proverbs 27:19: As in water face reflects face, so the heart of man reflects the man

Jeremiah 17:9: The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it?

Proverbs 4:23: Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life.

ROMANS 3:10-12 (ESV)

10 as it is written: “None is righteous, no, not one;

11 no one understands; no one seeks for God.

12 All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one.”

EZEKIEL 36:26-27(ESV)

26 And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

27 And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.

“Whatever rules the heart will exercise inescapable influence over the person’s life and behavior.”

(Paul David Tripp, *Instruments in the Redeemer’s Hands*, p 68)

MATTHEW 6:19-21 (ESV)

19 “Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal,

20 but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.

21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

We have control over the treasures we store in our hearts. We either pursue Christ or we pursue the things of the world. One leads to light and the other to darkness.

MATTHEW 23:23-24 (ESV)

23“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cumin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness. These you ought to have done, without neglecting the others.

24 You blind guides, straining out a gnat and swallowing a camel!

MATTHEW 22:36-39 (ESV)

36 “Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?”

37 And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.

38 This is the great and first commandment.

39 And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

So as you consider your life, are you more like the Pharisees or are you more like Jesus?

We will work hard through acts of justice & mercy to help others who suffer

We will work harder through evangelism to keep people from eternal suffering

We will work hardest to treasure Christ above all & bring glory to God

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JOHN 10:8-10 (ESV)

8 But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim);

9 because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

10 For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.

What is the key to a fruitful life?

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A fruitful life is marked by a **sincere faith** in Jesus Christ that is evidenced through **good character, righteous actions, and obedience** to God's word.

JAMES 1:26-27 (ESV)

26 If anyone thinks he is religious and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his heart, this person's religion is worthless.

27 Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

JAMES 2:14-17 (ESV)

14 What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him?

15 If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food,

16 and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and filled,” without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that?

17 So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

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