

Discussion Question and Spiritual Practices Mark 11:12-25

1. What kind of fruit is Jesus looking for in our lives today—and how can we tell if our leaves (outward appearance) match our roots (inner life)?

Cross-reference: Galatians 5:22–23 (Fruit of the Spirit)

Discuss how these challenges affect both personal spiritual growth and the health of a church community.

2. In what ways do our worship and church systems risk becoming like the temple in Jesus' day—busy but barren?

Cross-reference: Micah 6:6–8 (true worship)

Reflect on how Jesus' disruption in the temple confronts our assumptions about what God values most.

3. How does Jesus' call to "have faith in God" (v. 22) reshape how we approach prayer, especially when we face disappointment or doubt?

Cross-reference: James 1:5–8 (asking in faith)

Consider how prayer flows not from control but from trust in God's justice and timing.

Spiritual Practice Options

1. Fruit Inventory Prayer

Set aside 15 minutes for a quiet spiritual inventory. Ask the Holy Spirit to show you where your life is leafy but not fruitful. Journal what fruit God is cultivating in your life and what needs pruning. Consider making this a slow spiritual practice for the week, meaning starting your day this way.

2. Sacred Disruption Walkthrough

Take a walk through your home or schedule and ask, "What tables would Jesus flip here?" Invite Jesus to lovingly disrupt anything that's become more about performance than presence.

3. Mountain-Moving Prayer Fast

Choose one "mountain" in your life that seems immovable. Commit to a 3-day prayer fast (e.g., skip one meal a day) to pray over that situation, not to twist God's arm but to trust Him more deeply in it. End each prayer time by saying: "Not my will, but Yours be done."