



Sermon Notes: Foundations And Fruit

1. Four Metaphors.

- a. A fruit tree.
- b. A treasury.
- c. A servant and his master.
- d. A house and its foundation.

2. Three Principles.

- a. Behaviors reveal beliefs, and beliefs determine behaviors.
- b. Practices, not professions, reveal your functional lord.
- c. Adversity reveals your foundations.

3. Two Ways to Change.

- a. Outside-in.
- b. Inside-out.
 - Step 1: Ask God to give you His heart.
 - Step 2: Ask God to bear His fruit in and through you.

4. One Theme.

- Genuine faith in Christ is so transformative it will inevitably change the way you act and react to everything.



Application Questions: Foundations And Fruit

1. To what do you naturally attribute your sinful reactions? How would you start this sentence:
"_____ makes me do and say a lot of the things I regret"?
2. It's been said that what we do and say is *always* in character? Do you agree or disagree - and why? What did Jesus say about this?
3. How would you distinguish between being judgmental (which Jesus forbade) and exercising discernment based on the visible fruit of someone's life?
4. Listen to your words for a while. What's the overall tone? What are some themes that you keep hearing over and over again? Now ask a spouse, family member, or close friend the same questions about you. How were their answers different from yours?
5. Reflect on your answers to #4. If this is the overflow of your heart, what does that show you about yourself?
6. If others tried to discern the functional lord of your life based on the external fruit they can observe (your actions/attitudes/words), what do you think they'd conclude?
7. According to Luke 6:47-49, what do storms show us about ourselves that we might not be aware of when times are good?
8. Choose a sinful fruit you see in your life, being as specific as you can (e.g. "I tend to exaggerate and lie in situations where I think people will think poorly of me if they knew the truth").
 - What would it look like to try to solve this problem from the outside-in?
 - How is this surface sin actually originating in your heart? What desire are you trying to protect? What master are you trying to serve?
 - What would it look like to solve this problem from the inside-out?
 - What do you need to believe in this situation?
 - What do you need to repent of?
 - What do you need to replace at the heart level?
9. What one thing does God want you to do in response to His Word this week?