

“You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit. A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”

Matthew 7:16-19 ESV

The Bible says here that we will know them by their fruits! I want to suggest that before looking around at the fruits of others, which is important, we HAVE to look inward first!

What fruits are you producing? Do people know that you follow Christ? Do people know that you live by the spirit and not by the flesh? “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,”

Galatians 5:22 ESV

Are you living these out? Yes lets speak in tongues, yes lets allow for the holy spirit to use us in our giftings, and YES lets have fruit that is healthy and Christ-like. We need to operate in love, kindness, joy, peace, patience, goodness and faithfulness! It wont be perfect, it wont be your first response sometimes but He desires for it to be your goal and your primary response.

This fast has been such a beautiful process to dive deep into my own heart and search the fruits i bear. Letting the Lord prune what He doesn't want and grow what He loves in me. I want to encourage you to do this today and really look at your fruits. Do others know you by your fruit?

Prayer:

Lord, thank you for loving me unconditionally and showing me the fruit in my spirit. Please reveal anything deep or hidden inside of my spirit and take what you aren't pleased with. Grow the things you love about me and give me boldness to operate in a way that pleases your heart. I love you Jesus and i want to bring your name honor among others that dont believe in you and steward your gifts well! Thank you for your goodness, in Jesus name I pray, Amen.

-Pastor Courtney Howard