

Bearing Fruit

Matthew 21:33-46

Main idea: To emphasize the importance of bearing good fruit as a reflection of our relationship with God, explore the consequences of not bearing fruit, provide practical steps to bear fruit, and highlight the role of pruning in bearing fruit.

Topic: Bearing Fruit

Suggestions for moving forward with your sermon on "Bearing Fruit" based on Matthew 21:33-46:

1. Emphasize the importance of bearing good fruit: Expand on the idea of bearing fruit as a reflection of our relationship with God. Highlight the significance of producing good fruit in our lives as evidence of our faith and obedience to God's commands.

Scripture suggestion: Galatians 5:22-23 - Discuss the fruits of the Spirit and how they manifest in our lives when we are connected to God.

2. Explore the consequences of not bearing fruit: Discuss the consequences of a barren or unfruitful life. Explain how Jesus' parable in Matthew 21:33-46 illustrates the consequences faced by those who fail to bear fruit and fulfill their purpose.

Scripture suggestion: John 15:1-8 - Jesus' teaching on the vine and branches emphasizes the importance of abiding in Him to bear fruit and warns about the consequences of not doing so.

3. Encourage practical steps to bear fruit: Provide practical suggestions for your listeners to cultivate a fruitful life. Offer actionable steps they can take to deepen their relationship with God and produce good fruit in their thoughts, words, and actions.

Scripture suggestion: Psalm 1:1-3 - Discuss the importance of delighting in God's Word and meditating on it day and night, which leads to bearing fruit in due season.

4. Highlight the role of pruning in bearing fruit: Explain how pruning is necessary for growth and fruitfulness. Use the analogy of a gardener pruning a vine to illustrate how God prunes and refines us to produce even more abundant fruit.

Scripture suggestion: John 15:2 - Discuss how God prunes every branch that bears fruit so that it may bear more fruit, emphasizing the process of refinement and growth.

5. Connect the concept of bearing fruit to other biblical passages: Explore other passages that reinforce the importance of bearing fruit and its connection to our relationship with God.

Scripture suggestion: Isaiah 61:3 - Discuss how God desires to make us oaks of righteousness, planting us for His glory, and how this relates to bearing fruit.

Language suggestions and additional references:

1. In Matthew 21:33-46, the Greek word "karpos" is used for "fruit." You can explain the significance of this word and its broader meaning beyond literal fruit, such as the fruit of the Spirit or the fruit of righteousness.

2. Look for other instances where "karpos" is used in the New Testament, such as Galatians 5:22-23, and draw connections to reinforce your sermon's point about bearing fruit.

Remember to weave these suggestions seamlessly into your existing sermon outline, using relevant examples and illustrations to engage your audience.