

# The Barren Fig Tree

Jesus was a master teacher who skillfully used this parable to teach practical truths. We find a message in this story for those around Jesus who were not willing to repent and come to Him, but we also gain a great appreciation for the importance of bearing fruit. Sometimes it is easy to “look” like a Christian or have a Christian “feeling.” Jesus shows us that walking with Him is so much more.

## 1) The Barren Fig Tree (*Luke 13:1-9*)

- a. God seeks a repentant heart, no matter who you are (*Luke 13:1-5*)
  
- b. Be willing to repent and have it show from your heart (*Matt.3:7-8*)
  
- c. Jesus tells a parable showing God’s plan, His part, and the failings of the chosen people (*Luke 13:6-9*)
  
- d. Bearing fruit is the only way to honor the owner of the vineyard. Anything less is just using up ground (*Luke 13:7*)

## 2) The Keys of Bearing Fruit

- a. \_\_\_\_\_ fruit has eternal benefits (*John 15:16*)
  - i. God has invested in us (*1 Cor. 6:19-20; 7:23; Rom. 8:32*)
  
  - ii. He expects to find good things (*Heb.5:12-14; Matt.28:18-20; Ps. 92:13-14*)
  
- b. To bear fruit, we must be \_\_\_\_\_ to the vine. (*John 15:4-5*) This helps us walk the right way (*Gal. 5:16*), keep from being tired (*Isa.40:31*), and stay motivated (*Gal.6:9*)
  
- c. Don’t mistake \_\_\_\_\_ for the real thing. (*Matt.7:21; 1 John 2:15-17*)
  
- d. Our fruit is \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ by God. (*1 Cor. 3:12-14*) He knows all (*Heb.4:12-13*) and expects His people to use their abilities (*Luke 12:48; Matt.25:21*)

What about your fruit? What would the owner of the vineyard want to do with your tree?