

10. Jesus cleansed the temple of the what?
11. The religious leaders didn't like Jesus because He was a threat to their positions, their influence, and their what?
12. Mark splits up his description of the cursing of the fig tree by inserting the account of the what?
13. During the last week of His ministry, early in the morning, Jesus would enter what city and minister where?
14. At the end of the day, Jesus would return to what town?
15. In our text, Jesus headed back into Jerusalem before breakfast, so He was what?
16. This event took place in what month?
17. The fig tree was along the side of the road, which would have meant that it was what?
18. Because the fig tree had leafed out with green leaves, Jesus did expect it to have the what?
19. We know that Jesus never reacted to things in what way?
20. This was no knee-jerk reaction from Jesus; it was an intentional, deliberate, what?
21. The cursed fig tree was an object lesson of what?
22. What two Old Testament prophets used the fig tree as imagery in connection to Israel?
23. Israel had the look but didn't have the what?
24. As a whole, the nation of Israel was fruitless and barren, especially whom?
25. When Jesus cursed the fig tree He wanted the scene to be a shocking and potent illustration of what?
26. How many "woes" or "judgments" did the prophet Isaiah pronounce against the calloused people of Israel (in Isaiah 5)?
27. What was the only thing that the nation of Israel could look forward to (as illustrated by the cursed fig tree)?
28. Jesus wanted the cursed fig tree miracle to make a vivid and lasting impression on whom?
29. In verse 22, Jesus was trying to get the disciples to understand that the spiritual leaders of Israel didn't really have what?
30. What verse is often pulled out of its context?
31. The spiritual leaders of Israel had no real or genuine faith in God. It was all a bunch of empty what?
32. Jesus never did miracles simply to amaze people, without some kind of what?
33. In verse 23, Jesus was speaking with intentional exaggeration to let the disciples know that God wanted to do what through them?
34. In verse 24, is Jesus making a blanket statement on prayer?
35. Jesus wanted the lives of His men to be marked by the power of what?
36. Genuine faith and sincere prayer are what?
37. Because the spiritual leaders lacked genuine faith, their prayers were simply what?
38. The main point of this entire passage is that those whose lives are fruitless are what?

39. The Lord doesn't look at how good a person can talk the talk or how well he can put on a facade to everyone. He looks at what?

40. The Lord looks for the kind of fruit that comes from a heart that has real and genuine faith. Is that you?

Remember: Your responsibility, by God's enabling, is to consistently apply the divine principles and truths you have heard (Philippians 2:12-13; I Timothy 4:7-9; James 1:22-27). As you meditate on this message, ask yourself these questions:

- »»How does God want my beliefs/actions to change?
- »»How can I accomplish this change?
- »»What is the first step toward bringing about this change?
- »»What is the first step toward bringing about this change?

FOR NEXT TIME:

1. This week, read Mark 1:1-11:26 through one time.
2. What is bitterness? Have you ever battled bitterness? If so, what were the effects on you personally? How did you eventually deal with bitterness?
3. Why does the Lord call us to forgive others?

(A CD or DVD of this sermon is available. Order forms are located in various areas of the church—Resource Center and by Library Window).

WHY CURSE A FIG TREE?

Mark 11:20-24

Series #59

The following are questions designed to facilitate greater learning and deeper understanding of spiritual truths presented in the sermon: **“Why Curse a Fig Tree?”** All of the questions are answered as the sermon is presented. We hope that it will be a catalyst to spiritual growth in your life.

1. Do you know of anyone who threw away tremendous opportunities and potential?
2. When did the most tragic story of all take place?
3. Never did any group of people have more privilege and more opportunity and more potential than whom?
4. As a result of squandering all the privilege/opportunity/potential they had, the Jewish people ended up what?
5. At what point in the life of Jesus, did the events of Mark 11:12-24 take place?
6. All the gospel writers placed a heavy emphasis on the final days of what?
7. How much of Matthew's gospel is devoted to the last week of our Lord's life?
8. John's gospel gives how much of the book to cover the last week of our Lord's life?
9. What event opened the last week of Jesus' life?

***Help protect the quality of the sermon recording, please turn quietly to the inside of this study guide. Thank you!**