

A Second Chance at Repentance

Will the tree bear fruit? Or will it be cut down?

Sermon Questions

1. Since Jesus is Lord of all he cannot be ignored. (Yes/No)
2. After warning them in the parable of the barren fig tree, the crowds are getting another chance to respond to Jesus and follow him. (Yes/No)
3. _____ mental illness and physical disease today is caused by demonic influence. (Hint: The answer is either "All," "Some," or "No.")
4. Jesus laid hands on the woman since all miraculous healing happens through touch. (Yes/No)
5. Hardness of heart is a clear sign that a person does not know God. (Yes/No)
6. Religious pretenders are those who profess Christ but do not possess _____.
7. List some ways in which religious pretenders do penance rather than practice repentance:

8. Circle all the characteristics of someone truly repentant:
 - i. They believe that they sin and therefore they are a sinner.
 - ii. They believe that they sin because they are a sinner.
 - iii. They do not blame others or think themselves a victim.
 - iv. They confess their sin and ask for forgiveness.
 - v. They turn to Christ trusting his promise of forgiveness and life.
 - vi. They turn from sin, motivated by the grace of God.
9. There is much rejoicing when one _____ is freed from sin.
10. We should not despise small beginnings. Jesus' kingdom advances one _____ at a time.

Discussion/Meditation Questions

1. See how many examples in Scripture you can think of that demonstrate Jesus' compassion. What does he mean in Matthew 11:29–30?

2. Consider how the religious pretender seeks to justify themselves. Can you think of other ways not mentioned in the sermon? Describe true repentance (hint: Admit, Confess, Turn).

3. Why are the parables about the leaven and the mustard seed so encouraging? Have you seen a pattern in your life of slow but steady growth? In what area must you seek growth now?

4. What was your most significant take-away from this passage and sermon? Share this with another brother or sister in the fellowship.

Extras for the Children

What song did you enjoy the most today? _____

What did you learn about God today? _____

What words did you not know today? _____

Write or draw something you heard in the sermon.

