

Fruit From the Heart

Luke 6:43-45 ▪ Sunday, May 4, 2025 ▪ Jeremy Winkelman

Our _____ reflects our _____.

Our _____ reflects the _____.

Our _____ reflects the _____ of our _____.

Luke 6:43-45

⁴³ "For no good tree bears bad fruit, nor again does a bad tree bear good fruit, ⁴⁴ for each tree is known by its own fruit. For figs are not gathered from thornbushes, nor are grapes picked from a bramble bush. ⁴⁵ The good person out of the good treasure of his heart produces good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure produces evil, for out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks." (ESV)

Personal Reflection or Group Discussion Questions

Open: What's a fruit or vegetable that you associate with a good memory?

Read & Discuss: Luke 6:43-45

1. Jesus says in verse 43, "For no good tree bears bad fruit, nor again does a bad tree bear good fruit..." What are some ways we can observe this principle in the natural world around us? How might this natural law relate to our lives and actions?
2. Verse 44 states, "...each tree is known by its own fruit." What kinds of "fruit" might Jesus be referring to in our lives? Consider both positive and negative examples.
3. In verse 45, what do you think Jesus means when he speaks of the "treasure of [a person's] heart"? What are some ways we can cultivate "good treasure" in our hearts? How can we guard against storing up "evil treasure" in our hearts? What role does our community play in shaping the treasure of our hearts and the fruit that we produce?
4. Why is it that it is "out of the abundance" of our hearts that our "mouth speaks" (v. 45)? Have you ever been surprised by something you said, realizing it revealed something deeper about yourself? How do you see the connection between a person's heart and their words in every day life?
5. What does this passage have to teach us about the way we evaluate ourselves and others? How can we make sure we do this in a way reflects humility and grace (as we learned in Luke 6:37-42)?
6. Are there times when it's difficult to see the "fruit" of someone's life clearly? What factors might contribute to this difficulty? How should we respond in those situations?
7. **Read Galatians 5:22-23.** How does cultivating the fruit of the Spirit differ from simply trying to be a good person? Which of the fruits listed in Galatians 5 feel most challenging for you to develop? How does the Holy Spirit play a role in shaping the fruit we bear?

Apply: If someone were to observe your life, what kind of "fruit" would they see? What might they then conclude about your heart? What specific actions will you take this week to see that your heart is filled with "good treasure"?

Pray: Ask God to help us cultivate "good treasure" in our hearts—and to have the ability to exercise wise and gracious discernment regarding both our lives and the lives of others.