2. Jesus quoted Scripture saying that His house should be a house of prayer for all nations. How had the religious leaders lost sight of God's original purpose for the temple?

3. Why can going through the motions of Christianity without genuine spiritual fruit be so spiritually dangerous?

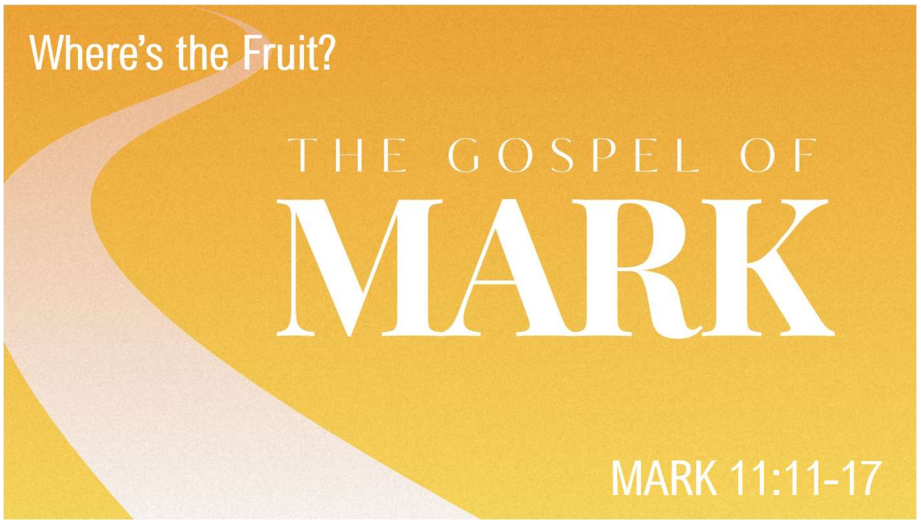
4. According to John 15:11, abiding in Christ and bearing fruit leads to fullness of joy. Why do you think genuine joy is connected to spiritual fruitfulness?

5. If someone examined your life beyond what they see on Sunday mornings, would they find evidence of genuine spiritual fruit? What might they see?

6. What is one practical change you can make this week to become more intentional about abiding in Christ?

CALVARY
OXNARD

Sermon Discussion Points for



Calvary Chapel Groups
Sunday, November 1, 2026

First

Read Mark 11:11-17 – After entering Jerusalem as the Messiah King, Jesus inspected the temple and later encountered a fig tree. In both instances, Jesus was looking for fruit based on the external appearance that indicated that fruit should be present. Finding no fruit, Jesus brought judgment both on the fig tree and in the temple.

Have you ever fallen victim to false advertising? What was promised, and what did you actually receive?

Vs. 11-12– Jesus Was Looking for Fruit

1. Why do you think Mark places the fig tree story between Jesus' two visits to the temple? What does each story help explain about the other?

2. What does it mean that Jesus was looking for spiritual fruit rather than simply religious activity?

3. How can we become so busy doing things associated with Christianity that we lose sight of *walking* with Christ?

4. If Jesus were to inspect your life today, what areas would He look at to see whether your faith is producing fruit?

5. What are some ways we can cultivate a life that is spiritually fruitful rather than merely full of religious activity?

Vs. 13 – Leaves Advertised Fruit, But None Was Found

1. It wasn't the season for figs, yet Jesus still expected fruit. Why would the leaves lead him to expect it?

2. What were the temple's "leaves," the things that looked impressive from a distance, but offered no fruit?

3. What are some examples in a Christian's life that might give the appearance of spiritual maturity without actually producing fruit?

4. Why is it sometimes easier to look like a Christian than to live like one?

5. Jesus says in John 15 that abiding in Him is the key to bearing fruit. What does abiding in Christ look like in your everyday life?

6. What are some specific examples of spiritual fruit that should become increasingly evident in the life of someone who is abiding in Jesus?

Vs. 14-17 – The Lack of Fruit Brought Judgment

1. Why do you think Jesus responded so strongly to what was happening in the temple? What did the temple's condition reveal about the hearts of the people?

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