

The Fruit

“A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit.”

1. We have learned that the stump (or root) is a picture of Jesus.
2. Last week, we learned that Jesus is also the Branch (or shoot).

The Value of Fruit

It is the easiest way to recognize a tree.

“Make a tree good and its fruit will be good, or make a tree bad and its fruit will be bad, for a tree is recognized by its fruit.” - Matthew 12:33

It is the purpose of a fruit tree.

- Matthew 21:19

“Seeing a fig tree by the road, He went up to it but found nothing on it except leaves. Then He said to it, “May you never bear fruit again!” Immediately the tree withered.”

“He cuts off every branch in me that bears no fruit, while every branch that does bear fruit He prunes so that it will be even more fruitful.” - John 15:2

It is the expected return for the owner of the tree.

“When the harvest time approached, he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his fruit.” - Matthew 21:34

Who is the Fruit?

The fruit is Jesus! He is the ultimate and eternal part of the tree.

“In that day the Branch of the LORD will be beautiful and glorious, and the fruit of the land will be the pride and glory of the survivors in Israel.” - Isaiah 4:2

This “fruit” is for the “nations.”

“In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples; the nations will rally to Him, and His place of rest will be glorious.” - Isaiah 11:10

“...and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed.” - Genesis 22:18

“The scepter will not depart from Judah, nor the ruler’s staff from between his feet, until he comes to whom it belongs and the obedience of the nations is his.” - Genesis 49:10

“...and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.” - Luke 24:47

The Angel Announced the Description of the Fruit

“And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign to you; You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.” ¹³Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, ¹⁴“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom His favour rests.” - Luke 2:8-14

1. This fruit is the Good News! (euangelizo)

*“But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you **good news**...”* - Luke 2:10

*“All over the world this **gospel** is bearing fruit and growing...”* - Colossians 1:6

*“Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, descended from David. This is my **gospel**...”* - 2 Timothy 2:8

2. This fruit is Great Joy!

*“Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of **great joy**...”* - Luke 2:10

*“As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb **leaped for joy**.”* - Luke 1:44

“I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them.” - John 17:13

3. This fruit is for everyone (but it isn’t automatically GIVEN).

*“I bring you good news of great joy that will be for **all the people**.”* - Luke 2:10

“In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples; the nations will rally to Him, and His place of rest will be glorious.” - Isaiah 11:10

4. This fruit is real and it is present.

- Luke 2:11

*“**Today in the town of David** a Saviour has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord.”*

“And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” - Matthew 28:20

5. This fruit is the salvation of the world.

*“Today in the town of David **a Saviour** has been born to you...”* - Luke 2:11

*“They said to the woman, “We no longer believe just because of what you said; now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is **the Saviour** of the world.”* - John 4:42

*“God exalted Him to His own right hand as Prince and **Saviour** that He might give repentance and forgiveness of sins to Israel.”* - Acts 5:31

6. This fruit is the world’s Messiah and our Master.

*“... a Saviour has been born to you; He is **Christ the Lord**.”* - Luke 2:11

7. This fruit brings glory to God Himself.

*“**Glory to God** in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom His favour rests.”* - Lk 2:14

*“The Word became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen **His glory**, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.”* - Jn. 1:14

“...and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” - Philippians 2:11

*“Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and **to see my glory**, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world.”* - John 17:24

8. This fruit is peace for those who choose it.

- Luke 2:14

*“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth **peace**, good will toward men.”* (KJV)

*“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth **peace** to men on whom His favour rests.”* (NIV)

*“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth **peace** among men with whom He is pleased.”* (NASB)

My Advice to You

1. Choose this fruit. Choose Jesus!

2. Produce fruit to show that your faith is genuine.

*“This is to my Father’s glory, that you **bear much fruit**, showing yourselves to be my disciples.”* - John 15:8

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My Advice to You

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2. Produce fruit to show that your faith is _____.
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The Lessons We Learn: Jesus is the Fruit We've Awaited!

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3. This fruit is for everyone (but it isn't automatically given).
4. This fruit is real and it is present.
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Consider and Discuss the Following:

1. What was your favourite part of Christmas morning as a child? What part did you like least? What would you like to always keep?
2. Which of the eight descriptions of Jesus, the Fruit of the Tree of Jesse and David, is most meaningful to you? Why?
3. Read John 15:1-8. What "fruit" might Jesus be talking about in this passage? Why is it so vitally important?
4. Why do you think that many Christians don't "bear much fruit" which would show that they are Jesus' disciples?
5. What will you do this week to bear fruit and show that you are a true Christ-follower?

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