September 24, *2022*

**Disciple: What it Means to Follow Jesus**

**The Test: Part 2**

**Matthew 7:13-27**

• This is God’s Word.

• It is a perfect treasure of divine instruction.

• It has God for its author,

• salvation for its end,

• and truth, without any mixture of error, for its matter.

• It is the supreme source of truth

• for what we believe

• and how we live.

**Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves. Do you not realize that Christ Jesus is in you—unless, of course, you fail the test? 2 Corinthians 13:5 (NIV)**

**Have you stepped out of the crowd to follow Jesus?**

**“You can enter God’s Kingdom only through the narrow gate. The highway to hell is broad, and its gate is wide for the many who choose that way. But the gateway to life is very narrow and the road is difficult, and only a few ever find it. Matthew 7:13-14**

**Jesus said clearly that only a few are on the road that leads to God’s Kingdom.**

**Is your life producing fruit that proves you are following Jesus?**

**You can identify them by their fruit, that is, by the way they act. Can you pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? A good tree produces good fruit, and a bad tree produces bad fruit. A good tree can’t produce bad fruit, and a bad tree can’t produce good fruit. So every tree that does not produce good fruit is chopped down and thrown into the fire. Yes, just as you can identify a tree by its fruit, so you can identify people by their actions. Matthew 7:16-20**

**When you produce much fruit, you are my true disciples. John 15:8**

* **The Fruit of the Spirit**

**But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things! Galatians 5:22-23**

* **The Fruit of Righteousness**

**May you always be filled with the fruit of your salvation—the righteous character produced in your life by Jesus Christ—for this will bring much glory and praise to God. Philippians 1:11**

* **The Fruit of Praise**

**Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise--the fruit of lips that confess his name. Hebrews 13:15 (NIV)**

* **The Fruit of Evangelism**

**I want to work among you and see spiritual fruit, just as I have seen among other Gentiles…So I am eager to come to you in Rome, too, to preach the Good News. For I am not ashamed of this Good News about Christ. It is the power of God at work, saving everyone who believes—the Jew first and also the Gentile. Romans 1:13-16**

**Are you walking the walk or just talking the talk?**

**“Not everyone who calls out to me, ‘Lord! Lord!’ will enter the Kingdom of Heaven. Only those who actually do the will of my Father in heaven will enter.**

 **On judgment day many will say to me, ‘Lord! Lord! We prophesied in your name and cast out demons in your name and performed many miracles in your name.’ But I will reply, ‘I never knew you. Get away from me, you who break God’s laws.’ Matthew 7:21-23**

**"If you love me, you will obey what I command. John 14:15 (NIV)**

**Will your faith weather the storms of life?**

**“Anyone who listens to my teaching and follows it is wise, like a person who builds a house on solid rock. Though the rain comes in torrents and the floodwaters rise and the winds beat against that house, it won’t collapse because it is built on bedrock. But anyone who hears my teaching and ignores it is foolish, like a person who builds a house on sand. When the rains and floods come and the winds beat against that house, it will collapse with a mighty crash.” Matthew 7:24-27**