

"No good tree bears bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit. Each tree is recognized by its own fruit. People do not pick figs from thornbushes, or grapes from briars. The good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For out of the overflow of his heart his mouth speaks. Luke 6:43-45 (NIV)

Good Fruit

Do you want to bear fruit for my kingdom? Do you want to bring glory to my name? Nothing is more important to me than bearing fruit for your kingdom and bringing glory to your name. How can I be certain to bear good fruit for your kingdom and bring glory to your name? **That's a very good question. Do you know what certainly won't bear fruit for my kingdom or bring glory to my name?** I think so. **Tell me.** My own best ideas and my own best efforts will not bear fruit for your kingdom or bring glory to your name. **That's right. It pleases me that you know this to be true. You remember my word that has said, 'apart from me you can do nothing.'** Yes, I do. Those words are stored up in my heart. **That's a key thought. You're on to a very important idea. You are very close to the answer to your question. Tell me what you are thinking.**

In the past I have had a lot of bad things stored up in my heart. Every once in a while, my mouth would reveal what was stored up in my heart. I would say things that I deeply regretted. I would wonder where in the world did my pathetic words come from. The answer was, they came from my heart. What was in my heart would always eventually spill out of my life for everyone to see. **That's true.** What is also true, is that you have been changing my heart. As I have been storing up your word in my heart, you have been changing my heart and transforming my mind. You have been helpful to think your thoughts. You have been helping me to walk in your ways. You have been helping to know and do your will. My heart and mind and life are being filled up to the brim with good things, as I have been meeting with you in your word. **Exactly, and what is now spilling out of your life?** Good things are spilling out of my life. I am speaking words that reveal the good work that you are doing in my heart and mind and life. **Is it now difficult for you to bear fruit for my kingdom and bring glory to my name?** No, all I need to do is to follow you to where you lead me and do what you ask of me. That has become the desire of my heart because of the work you are doing in and through my life. All praise and glory and honor belong to you. It is you that is bearing fruit in and through my life. **Yes, I am.**

Lord, I have had bad things stored up in my heart. What was in my heart came out of my mouth. I wasn't happy. Others weren't happy. You weren't happy. But, you are changing me. Keep using your word to change my heart. Make my life fruitful for you. Amen

Rhythms*Storing Up – Bringing Out*

"No good tree bears bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit. Each tree is recognized by its own fruit. People do not pick figs from thornbushes, or grapes from briars. The good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For out of the overflow of his heart his mouth speaks.

NIV

Luke 6:43-45

Parables*Weeds In The Field*

"For no good tree bears bad fruit, nor again does a bad tree bear good fruit, for each tree is known by its own fruit. For figs are not gathered from thornbushes, nor are grapes picked from a bramble bush. 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

Luke 6:43-45

Rhythms*Storing Up – Bringing Out*

"A good tree can't produce bad fruit, and a bad tree can't produce good fruit. A tree is identified by its fruit. Figs never grow on thornbushes, nor grapes on bramble bushes. A good person produces good things from the treasury of a good heart, and an evil person produces evil things from the treasury of an evil heart. What you say flows from what is in your heart.

NLT

Luke 6:43-45

Rhythms*Storing Up – Bringing Out*

"For a good tree does not bear bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit. For every tree is known by its own fruit. For men do not gather figs from thorns, nor do they gather grapes from a bramble bush. A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart brings forth evil. For out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.

NKJV

Luke 6:43-45

Rhythms*Storing Up – Bringing Out*

"No good tree bears bad fruit, nor again does a bad tree bear good fruit; for each tree is known by its own fruit. Figs are not gathered from thorns, nor are grapes picked from a bramble bush. The good person out of the good treasure of the heart produces good, and the evil person out of evil treasure produces evil; for it is out of the abundance of the heart that the mouth speaks.

NRSV

Luke 6:43-45

Rhythms*Storing Up – Bringing Out*

"You don't get wormy apples off a healthy tree, nor good apples off a diseased tree. The health of the apple tells the health of the tree. You must begin with your own life-giving lives. It's who you are, not what you say and do, that counts. Your true being brims over into true words and deeds.

MSG

Luke 6:43-45

Rhythms*Storing Up – Bringing Out*

For there is no good (healthy) tree that bears decayed (worthless, stale) fruit, nor on the other hand does a decayed (worthless, sickly) tree bear good fruit. For each tree is known and identified by its own fruit; for figs are not gathered from thornbushes, nor is a cluster of grapes picked from a bramblebush. The upright (honorable, intrinsically good) man out of the good treasure [stored] in his heart produces what is upright (honorable and intrinsically good), and the evil man out of the evil storehouse brings forth that which is depraved (wicked and intrinsically evil); for out of the abundance (overflow) of the heart his mouth speaks.

AMP

Luke 6:43-45

Rhythms*Storing Up – Bringing Out*

"A tree from good stock doesn't produce scrub fruit nor do trees from poor stock produce choice fruit. A tree is identified by the kind of fruit it produces. Figs never grow on thorns, or grapes on bramble bushes. A good man produces good deeds from a good heart. And an evil man produces evil deeds from his hidden wickedness. Whatever is in the heart overflows into speech.

TLB

Luke 6:43-45

Rhythms*Storing Up – Bringing Out*

"For there is no good tree which produces bad fruit, nor, on the other hand, a bad tree which produces good fruit. "For each tree is known by its own fruit. For men do not gather figs from thorns, nor do they pick grapes from a briar bush. "The good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth what is good; and the evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth what is evil; for his mouth speaks from that which fills his heart.

NASB

Luke 6:43-45

Rhythms*Storing Up – Bringing Out*

"For there is no good tree which produces bad fruit, nor, on the other hand, a bad tree which produces good fruit. "For each tree is known by its own fruit. For men do not gather figs from thorns, nor do they pick grapes from a briar bush. "The good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth what is good; and the evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth what is evil; for his mouth speaks from that which fills his heart.

NCV

Luke 6:43-45

Storing Up – Bringing Out

Year _____ Week _____ Day _____ Date _____

Rhythms – Luke 6:43-45

In Context: Read Luke 6

Begin With Prayer:

Here I am Lord. I Am Listening.

Meditating On God’s Word: *(What is God speaking to your heart?)*

"No good tree bears bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit. Each tree is recognized by its own fruit. People do not pick figs from thornbushes, or grapes from briars. The good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and the evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For out of the overflow of his heart his mouth speaks. Luke 6:43-45

Considering The Words: *(What words speak to your heart?)*

"No good tree | bears | bad fruit, | nor does | a bad tree | bear | good fruit. | Each tree | is recognized | by | its | own fruit. | People | do not | pick figs | from thornbushes, | or grapes | from briars. | The good man | brings | good things | out of | the good | stored up | in | his heart, | and | the | evil man | brings | evil things | out of | the evil | stored up | in | his heart. | For out | of the | overflow | of his heart | his mouth | speaks. Luke 6:43-45

Praying The Scripture: *(What prayer from your heart will you write?)*

Lord, I have had bad things stored up in my heart. What was in my heart came out of my mouth. I wasn't happy. Others weren't happy. You weren't happy. But, you are changing me. Keep using your word to change my heart. Make my life fruitful for you. Amen

What It Means: *(What questions speak to your heart?)* (Suggested questions for small group discussion are in bold)

How are you allowing the Lord to store up good things in your heart?

How are you on guard against bad things being stored up in your heart?

What types of bad things do you need to be especially concerned about being stored in your heart?

When has your mouth revealed to you that some bad things have been stored up in your heart?

When has God's word been able to root out some bad things that were stored in your heart?

How will memorizing and meditating on God's word store up good things in your heart?

When have you been able to recognize evil or good by the fruit that was on display?

Living It Out: *(What action step is God guiding your heart to take?)*

Store up God's word in your heart so that your life will bear good fruit for God's kingdom and His glory.

Seeing It Happen: *(What are you trusting God for in your heart?)*

Have faith that your life will show forth good fruit as you allow the Lord to store up good things in your heart.

Get Ready To Share: *(What can you share with others from your heart?)*

Share with another person or your small group how you are storing up God's word in your heart.

Close With Prayer:

Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

Pause And Offer Prayers Of...

With An Attitude Of Faith Listen To What The Lord Wants To Say To You

Adoration... _____

Thanksgiving... _____

Confession... _____

Intercession... _____

Petition... _____

Journal

As You Quiet Yourself Before The Lord

What Do You Want To Say To Me Lord?

What Prayers Are You Praying Today?

Prayer Of Blessing

(What Prayer Of Blessing Can You Pray For Another?)

May you allow the Lord to store up good things in your heart so you will be able to bear fruit for Him.

Prayer To Carry

(What Prayer Would You Like To Carry Throughout Your Day?)

Lord, I will allow you to store up good things in my heart so I will be able to bear fruit for you.

What Do You Want To Remember About Today?

A Question To Ask God

(What Would You Like To Ask God?)

Lord, how do you want to store up good things in my heart so I can be fruitful for you?
