

Change the Heart, Change the Life, Dec. 12-15

WHY LEARNING COMMUNITIES? **Circle Two Opportunity...**

To become better and better disciples of Christ TOGETHER so we can face **anything** through...

1. Deeper learning of Biblical truth
2. Stronger “iron sharpening iron” relationships

Ephesians 4:12–16 (ESV)

HOUSEKEEPING:

- ➔ There are major, significant things afoot in the Unseen – MAJOR! **PRAY, PRAY, PRAY, PRAY, PRAY!**
- ➔ 2025 Devotional books
- ➔ Learning Communities on pause until January 9

Importance of fruit inspection...

Hebrews 3:12 (ESV) Take care, brothers, lest there be in any of you an evil, unbelieving heart, leading you to fall away from the living God.

2 Corinthians 13:5 (ESV) ⁵Examine yourselves, to see whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Or do you not realize this about yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you?—unless indeed you fail to meet the test!

1 Corinthians 11:27–32 (ESV)

Fruit inspection to get to what is true

Matthew 5:21–22 (ESV)

Matthew 5:27–28 (ESV)

1 Samuel 16:7 (ESV) ⁷But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.”

Galatians 6:1–5 (ESV)

How fruit inspection works...

1. Notice the fruit with brutal honesty
2. Ask God what He sees - Listen
3. Repent and Surrender – 180 degree turn to follow
4. Obey – live it 24/7

Identifying bad fruit and good fruit

It's a choice!

Galatians 5:16–26 (ESV) (pew Bible page 975)

- ➔ BAD FRUIT - selfish, against Jesus and others option, vs. 19-21
Pleasure: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality,

False religion/ supernatural: idolatry, sorcery,

Relationship: enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy,

Excesses: drunkenness, orgies, and things like these

→ Good Fruit: loving, Spirit powered for Jesus and others option, vs. 22-24

Love:

joy,

peace

patience,

kindness,

goodness,

faithfulness,

gentleness,

self-control

→ *Seriousness of bearing good fruit...*

ABIDING is how fruit is produced, good or bad.

Galatians 5:25–26 (ESV) (pew Bible page 975)

→ It's not about trying harder but surrendering more to ABIDE

ABIDE: intimate, close relationship, "attached" so that the Spirit lives in and through us as we
Surrender, Listen and Obey

John 15:1–11 (ESV) (pew Bible page 901)

Psalm 73:25–26 (ESV) ²⁵Whom have I in heaven but you? And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides you. ²⁶My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.

Takeaways...

