# Mark 11:11-19: A Fig Tree Cursing & Temple Cleansing

May 7, 2023 (CR: Matt. 21:12-13;18-20, Luke 19:45-46)

### Narrative Notes

### Vs. 11

As the Son of God, the Messiah, Jesus has the \_\_\_\_\_\_ to inspect his Father's house (Temple).

# Vs. 12-14

The cursing of the fig tree focuses on the expectation Jesus had of

the tree bearing \_\_\_\_\_\_ and the symbolic \_\_\_\_\_

implications of the tree being unfruitful.

- Fruitful Fig Tree: Symbolized God's \_\_\_\_\_ on the nation of Israel.
- Unfruitful Fig Tree: Symbolized God's \_\_\_\_\_\_of
  Israel because of their spiritual barrenness.

# Vs. 15-17

The cleansing of the Temple focuses on the expectation Jesus had that his Father's house would be treated with \_\_\_\_\_. WHAT IS HAPPENING?

- ~ Buying & Selling: Fueled the \_\_\_\_\_ of the High Priest
- Moneychangers: Widespread \_\_\_\_\_\_ and fraud through inflated currency exchange rates
- Carrying Merchandise: Showed \_\_\_\_\_\_ for the Temple & God
- WHERE IS IT HAPPENING?

God's Temple: House of \_\_\_\_\_\_ vs. Den of \_\_\_\_\_\_

### Vs. 18-19

The time for \_\_\_\_\_\_ measures against Jesus is in full force with the religious leaders.

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# <u>Take Home Truth</u>

An "\_\_\_\_\_" Christian seems to be a Biblical paradox.

# Sermon Discussion Guide

<u>Getting Started</u> What resonated with you the most from the message?

### Sermon Discussion

### Read Matthew 3:7-8, John 15:1-5

Why should there be concern if someone claims to be a Christian but bears no fruit and has no fruit bearing desire?

### Discuss these statements:

- ~ A person showing no fruit and no desire is not the same as the person with inconsistent fruit and inconsistent desire.
- ~ A fruit-bearing lifestyle is an indication of genuine faith.

### Read Galatians 5:22-23

From this passage and other parts of the Bible, what are some specific examples of "fruit" Christians should be demonstrating?

What are some specific "fruit bearing" obstacles Christians face?

### **Read Galatians 5:16**

What role does the Holy Spirit play in Christians bearing fruit?

What are some specific steps Christians can take to be more "fruit bearing"?

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