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Receive God's Word

Luke 13:1-9

Sermon: *The Parables of Jesus* - Luke 13:1-9
Tony Penner, *Lead Pastor*

Discussion Questions

1. How do you feel about the idea that the events of history may be used by God to enact his judgement or blessings?
2. If Jesus is saying that everyone is an equal offender, do we all deserve punishment? How should that make us feel about God's mercy?
3. What can be said about a Christian (tree) that is not bearing fruit? What is the fruit that a Christian should produce?
4. What should be our response to Christ's call to repent? Why?
5. What can we do if we see that we are not producing the fruit that Christ calls for?
6. As Christians, why would we find comfort and assurance even as Jesus pronounces judgement?

Prayer Suggestions

- Pray that we as Christians would repent and bear fruit.
- Pray for those who may believe they have genuine faith but do not.
- Pray that we can share the Gospel so that others may not face judgment.
- Pray that we as God's people would endure and find victory to the end.
- Ask God to grant us patience and discernment in our days.

Questions for a younger audience

Please note that these questions are more meant to guide parents in some possible ways to break down more complex concepts and issues, in ways that children may understand more easily. It is always best if parents cater the question to the particular needs of their children.

For assistance or suggestions regarding these questions, please contact Pastor Thomas.

1. Can you think of a time when you did something that was painful and/or embarrassing, and people around you laughed?
2. Can you think of a time when you laughed at someone when they were hurt or embarrassed?

When people laugh at those kinds of things, it is probably partly because they don't think the same thing will or even could happen to them.

3. In our story today, some bad things happen to some people in Jesus' community. Many people think that those bad things happened to people because they were very bad people. Does Jesus say, 'you are right' or, 'you are wrong' to those people?
4. What should be the response of our heart when bad things happen to others? Should it be, 'I'm glad I'm not as foolish as that person,' or should it be, 'Thank you God for keeping me safe'?
5. Which response do you think we feel more easily? Which one is harder? Why do you think one is harder than the other?
6. What are some ways God has given us to help us become people who are thankful when we are spared hard or painful things, rather than people who think we are better than people who suffer? Brain storm some ways to encourage that attitude as a family.