

“Where’s the Fruit?”

(1) Getting Started	(3) Digging Deeper
<p>Prayer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take prayer requests and pray for each other. <p>Summer Planning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a 5-10 minute brainstorm session and talk about things you could do as a group over the summer for fun. Encourage everyone to check their calendars and let them know next week the plan will be to choose 2- 3 fun events for the group and put them on the calendar. <p>Note to Leaders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are more questions than normal and fewer scripture passages. You may or may not have time for all the questions. You are encouraged to select the questions you think will prompt the best group discussion. Please feel free to add verses you think are pertinent to the discussion. Example: John 15:1-8, Matthew 3:8, Mark 11:12-21 	<p>Understanding Suffering</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Which of the four reasons for suffering (Stuff happens, Stupid choices, God’s sovereignty, God’s discipline for Sin) is hardest for you to understand or most difficult to accept? Why? -How should we respond to others’ suffering without making wrong assumptions? <p>The Call to Repent</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Why does Jesus shift the focus from others’ tragedy to our need to repent? -What does genuine repentance look like in everyday life? -Why does Jesus repeat the warning about perishing? <p>The Fig Tree & Fruitfulness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -What does the fruitless fig tree represent? -What does the parable teach about God’s patience and His limits? -What kind of “fruit” should be evident in a believer’s life? -What does the gardener’s plea for more time reveal about Jesus’ heart? -If God examined your life today, what fruit would He find? -What does it practically mean to “abide in Christ”?
(2) Read Scripture	(4) Application
<p>Read</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Luke 13:1-9 <p>Discuss</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is your initial reaction to Jesus’ words “repent or perish”? 	<p>Questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What spiritual fruit is growing in your life right now? What is lacking? • Where might God be calling you to repent or return to obedience? • What is one specific way you can abide in Christ this week?