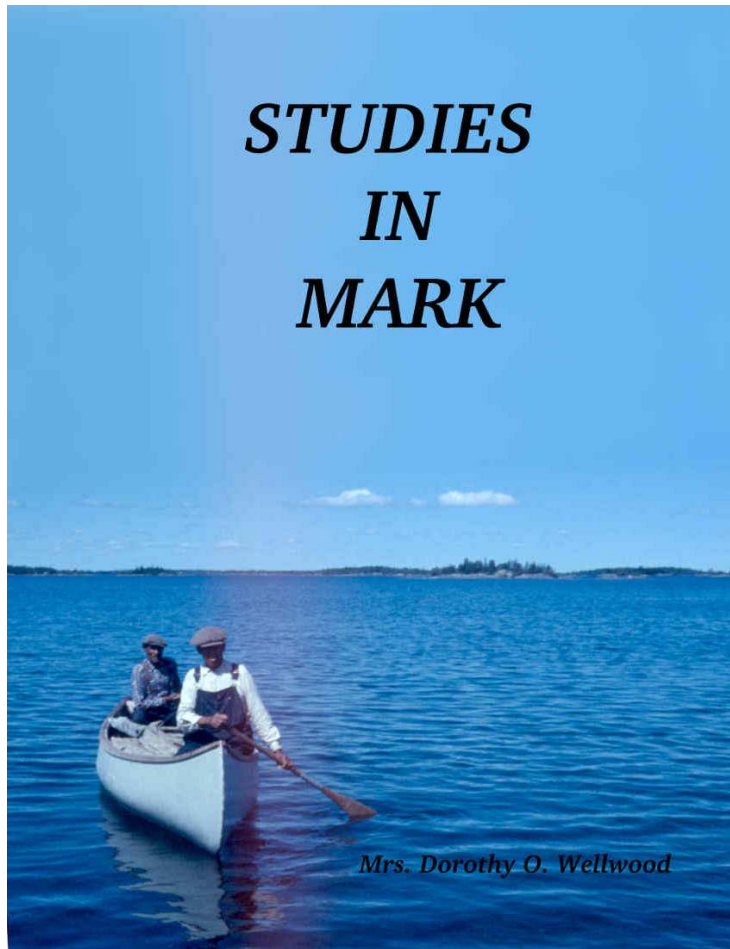


*STUDIES
IN
MARK*



Mrs. Dorothy O. Wellwood

LESSON 43

MARK 11:12-24

ONE MORE DAY IN THE LIFE OF JESUS

READ MARK 11:12-19

A LESSON FROM THE FIG TREE - FRUIT

Choose the right answer in the following sentences:

1. Jesus spent the night with His disciples in (Jerusalem, Bethphage, Bethany) (verses 11,12)
2. Who lived in this town? (John 11:1) (Simon and Andrew; Mary, Martha, and Lazarus John he Baptist)
3. Probably Jesus and His disciples started the next morning before breakfast because verse 12 says He was (tired, hungry, poor)

(Jesus was in a hurry to get to the temple, God's house, in Jerusalem. When Jesus was a boy of twelve, He was found in this temple, God's house, in Jerusalem. That was the time He told His mother, "I must be about My Father's business." As a man, He still had business to do in His Father's house.

4. As Jesus walked along the road to Jerusalem, He saw something far away. He saw (an olive tree, an apple tree, a fig tree)

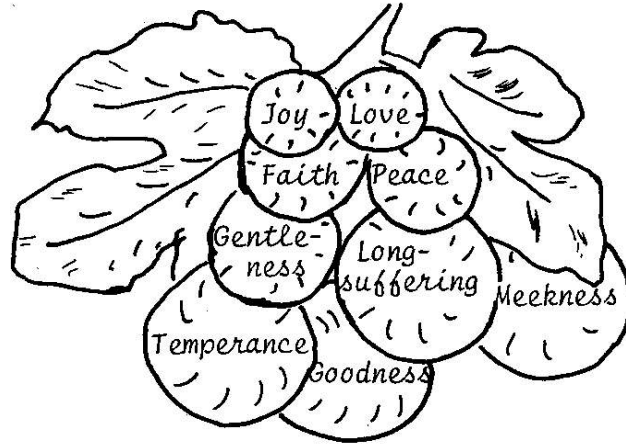


5. If there had been figs on the tree, Jesus and His disciples could have had something to eat. When they came to the fig tree they found (ripe figs, green figs, nothing but leaves)
6. "The time of the figs is (not yet, now, in the fall)" (verse 13)
7. Jesus said something to this fig tree with all leaves and no fruit. He said that nobody would eat fruit from this tree (this year, next year, forever) (verse 14)

We should learn about fig trees so we can understand this story. Fig trees have 3 crops of figs every year (June, August and December). The figs start to come on the trees before the leaves grow. By the time there are many leaves, there should be lots

of fruit on the tree. Sometimes when it is not a hard winter, the fruit that grows in December hangs on the tree all winter. This fruit is very nice to eat. Jesus came by this fig tree. It was too early for the fig crop, but there were many leaves already, so this tree should have had figs. Matthew 21:19 says the tree grew "along the way," or by the road. It would get lots of sun by the road so fruit should have been early.

Jesus is looking for fruit in the lives of Christians. He is hungry to see us doing His will. Does Jesus always find Christians showing the fruits of the Spirit?



8. READ Galatians 5:22,23, and make a list of the fruits Jesus looks for in Christians.

- | | | | | | |
|----|---|----|---|----|---|
| 1) | , | 2) | , | 3) | , |
| 4) | , | 5) | , | 6) | , |
| 7) | , | 8) | , | 9) | . |

God had been looking for fruit from Israel, but there were only leaves. This is true of Christians too. Lots of leaves make a tree look nice but what good is an apple tree with only leaves, or a fig tree that has nice leaves and no figs. If we are Christians let us make sure that Jesus finds fruits of the Spirit in our hearts. A nice show on the outside is not enough. To find out how to make good fruit for Jesus we need to read and study John 15:1-14.

READ MARK 11:20-24

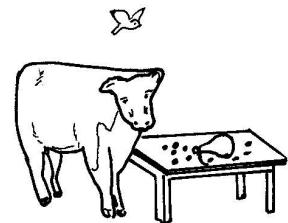
FAITH In these verses you will see what happened to the fig tree. Remember that in verse 14, Jesus said nobody would ever eat fruit from that tree again.

1. When did Jesus and His disciples walk past the fig tree again? (verse 20)
2. Jesus put a curse on the fig tree. What did it look like the next morning?
Verse 20
Verse 21
3. God has made every person. He has made us so our lives could give glory to God. When we do not become Christians, it is impossible to bear fruit for God. The flesh cannot grow the fruits of the Spirit. So we must first be born of the Spirit. (John chapter 3) God cannot get any glory from a life lived for self. What does John 15:5 say about bearing fruit for God?
"I am the _____, _____ are the _____, He that _____ (lives) in Me and _____, the same brings forth _____.
_____ . For without me ye can do _____."
4. Peter wanted Jesus to look at the fig tree in verse 21. What answer did Jesus give to Peter in verse 22? "_____."
5. Jesus said in verse 23 that we could move mountains if we did not have _____ in our hearts. If we want a prayer answered we must _____ that we will have the answer.
6. Memorize verse 24, and then write it down. "_____."

READ MARK 11:15-19

JESUS CLEANS THE TEMPLE

1. When Jesus went into the temple, what were the people doing? (verse 15)



- 1) Jesus cast out those that _____ and _____.
- 2) Jesus overthrew the tables of the _____.
- 3) Jesus overthrew the seats of those that _____.

Why did Jesus find animal and birds and a market in the house of God?

- 1) Sacrifices for sin had to be made in the temple. People brought animals and birds into the temple to sell. Animals for sacrifice must not have anything wrong with them. The family of Annas, the high priest, was getting rich from this market in the temple.
 - 2) In Exodus 30:13, the law of Moses said a man had to pay half a shekel for his soul. People from different countries had to change their money to get the right amount. The money changers in the temple made much money at this job. There was so much cheating that Jesus said they made God's house "a den of thieves." (verse 17)
2. Jesus said in verse 17, "My house shall be called of all nations _____."
 3. Who did not like it when Jesus threw all the money makers out of God's house? (verse 18) _____ and _____.
 4. What did these bad men want to do to Jesus right away? (verse 18)
 5. Where did Jesus go before night? (verse 19)

Jesus was wise enough to know it was not safe to stay in the city at night. His enemies were afraid to kill him in daylight. Jesus' time to die was not quite come. He would not give His enemies a chance to kill Him before God's time was ready. This is why He always left the city before night.

6. Jesus made His temple clean by casting out all that was bad and sinful. What does it say in 1 Corinthians 6:19 about our bodies as Christians?

“Your body is

” We need to let the Lord Jesus look around at everything in our hearts. We can ask Him to cast out every unclean thing He sees there. Then the temple of the Holy Spirit will be a clean place for the Lord Jesus and His Holy Spirit to live in.



Also read Romans 8:9.

STUDIES IN MARK by Dorothy O. Wellwood.

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