



The Director Ms. Osborne
Serving the Community in
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Monthly Newsletter



**Founder and Executive Director
Bridget Osborne**

**For your Free monthly newsletter
Email us at:
Sonsanddaughtersministry2020@gmail.com
view our website:
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Phone (347) 614-9418**

WHERE IS THE FRUIT?

Dear Chosen One: Greetings in the Name of Jesus! I'd like to bring your attention to an important distinction: There is no difference between an **unfruitful tree** and a **fruitless Christian**. Both of them are unproductive, even though they have the ability to bear fruit.

In the Gospel of Luke 13:6-9, Jesus told the parable about the unfruitful fig tree. He said, **"There was once a man who had a fig tree growing in his vineyard. He went looking for figs on it but found none. So, he said to the gardener, 'Look, for three years I have been coming here looking for figs on this tree and haven't found any. Cut it down! Why should it go on using up the soil'? But the gardener answered, 'Leave it alone, sir, just one more year, I will dig around it and put some fertilizer, then if the tree bears next year, so much the better, if not then you can have it cut down.'"**

I want to make a comparison between this **"unfruitful fig tree"** and a **"fruitless Christian"**. For years this fig tree occupied space in the garden. I believe this gardener toiled on the ground before he planted the seed, watered it, removed the weeds, put fertilizer around and did all the necessary things to help this tree bear fruit. But instead, the tree refused to reproduce like the other trees in the garden. This tree was behaving like a typical fruitless Christian, one who only wants to be on the receiving side, without functioning in the church or giving back to the community.

This is how **fruitless Christians** behave. They go to church on Sundays, listen to the Word, pray, take communion, give an offering, and do all

the other godly rituals to make them look like a fruitful Christian when they are not. While in church their minds are preoccupied about what others are doing, are wearing, or they are texting or thinking what they will do, when they get out of church, whether it is cooking, doing laundry, shopping, or doing things to make them feel good. These individuals do not take the Gospel seriously; they do not apply the Word of God to their lives; they refuse to follow directions, and live their lives according to Biblical standards, and they definitely are not interested in sharing the Gospel with those who are not saved around them.

As Christians, God is waiting for many of us to start bearing fruit. He sent Shepherds to love, motivate, encourage, and edify us by preaching the uncompromised Word, so that we can bear fruits.

Yes! God is looking for Christians who are bearing fruit- those who are productive- so that they can go and show others how to do the same. God is not like the owner of the fig tree who wanted to cut down the fruitless tree. God is like the gardener who wants to give those who are not bearing another opportunity to become fruit bearers.

The gardener and the pastor provide the necessities and the help needed to produce growth. In a church setting, the Pastor provides a stable environment. He or she demonstrates love, preaches the uncompromised Word of God, provides godly counseling, and all the basics needed to help their parishioners grow spiritually, yet they refuse to. From their outer appearance these Christians look as if they are bearing fruit, but when you examine them

BE FRUITFUL AND MULTIPLY!

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closely, you will see that they are *fruitless*, *powerless*, and *unproductive* when it comes to the things of God.

In Genesis 1:28 God told us to be fruitful and multiply. We were created to be fruitful, but we must stay connected to the “**True Vine**”-Jesus. Jesus said, “**I am the Vine, and you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit, for without Me you can do nothing.**” (John 15:5)

People of God, if you are sitting in church accumulating knowledge without witnessing, you are unfruitful. If you are not tithing in your church, as God commanded, you are living in disobedience. If you have never done or supported any outreach ministry, you are unproductive. If you are still willfully sinning and living your life according to your own standards, you are fruitless. If you have a personal relationship with Jesus and the “**Fruit of the Spirit**” is not visible in your life, you are ineffective.

In reality, you are just like that unfruitful fig tree—taking up space and consuming all the necessary things to grow and bear fruit, yet you remain fruitless. The Kingdom of God is about Power and Action. Let me inform you that while you are in church getting spiritually obese from the Word of God and you refuse to be transformed to the Word, souls are being ushered into the kingdom of darkness. Yes! Satan and his demons are busy working towards stealing souls that you refused to witness to. John 10:10a says, “**The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy.**”

Today, while many Christians are living their lives in an unproductive state and demonstrating poor examples of godly living, many unsaved individuals are dying without knowing and accepting Jesus Christ as their personal Savior. The Gospel is the Good News that transforms lives. Unfruitful Christians have a form of godliness that denies the Power of God.

The Word of God says, “**And even now the ax is laid to the root of the trees. Therefore, every tree which does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.**”

Listen to me carefully. If you have wasted God’s precious time inhaling air, accumulating knowledge, taking up space on earth, eating spiritual food, drinking from the fountain of life, and you still have nothing to show, you are fruitless. Moreover, not only are you fruitless, but you are also compared to that unworthy servant—the one who took his master’s money and buried it instead of investing or multiplying it. The Bible says, “[the servant] ‘dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. He refused to invest what was given to him because of fear. (Matthew 25:18)

If you are a Christian and your life is not bearing fruit, it’s time to ask the Holy Spirit to show you the areas in your life that need to be cultivated. However, you must be willing to submit and allow the Holy Spirit to dig around in those areas and provide the spiritual food that you need to start bearing fruit. Thus, If you have allowed unrepented sin to hinder you from bearing fruit—**REPENT!**

The Bible says these are the Fruit of the Spirit: “**...Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness and Self-control. Against such things there is no law.**” (Galatians 5:22-23).

Here is some good news, “**The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, he/she shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon.**” (Psalm 92:12).

Today, my prayer is that “**You may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God.**” (Colossians 1:10).

May you be “**like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that brings forth its fruit in its season, whose leaf also shall not wither; and whatever [you] do shall prosper.**” (Psalms 1:3).



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