

MEALS WITH

JESUS

**Mark 11:12-14**







# JESUS' MISSING MEAL



# 1. The fig tree represents Israel



a. Israel was fruitless



**b. Failure to produce fruit  
led to judgment for Israel**



c. Christians also are “fruit trees” in God’s kingdom



2. Fruit is a spiritual  
product of the state of  
your heart



**a. Fruit is Christlike  
character qualities  
produced and enabled  
by the Holy Spirit**



**b. Fruit originates in the heart, but is revealed in your words, actions, thinking, and emotions**



**c. Fruit is maturity and growth that leads to more maturity and growth**



d. Fruit identifies you



3. God expects his  
people to be fruitful



**a. God puts us in locations  
and situations to show if  
we have fruit**



## b. God searches for fruit



**c. God patiently gives time  
for fruit to grow**



4. Fruit trees are  
meant to produce fruit



**a. Fruit is a sign of maturity,  
not age**



**b. Outward appearances  
do not necessarily mean  
fruitfulness**



**c. God expects fruit,  
even if it is small**



**d. Fruit is meant to bless  
others and produce more  
trees**



**e. Fruitless trees are a  
waste of real estate**



# 5. Jesus helps us produce fruit



**a. Jesus cultivates fruit  
in your life**



**b. Jesus softens your heart**



- With the Holy Spirit
- With the Word of God



**c. Jesus dumps “manure”  
into your life to encourage  
growth**



6. Fruitless trees wilt  
or get axed



**a. Jesus gives us time to  
grow and bear fruit, but  
not unlimited time**



**b. Fruitlessness eventually  
leads to judgment**



**c. There is a difference  
between discipline and  
judgment**



# Application

*Luke 13:6-9 is open-ended.*



**For the non-Christian:  
Repent and believe in  
Christ for salvation**



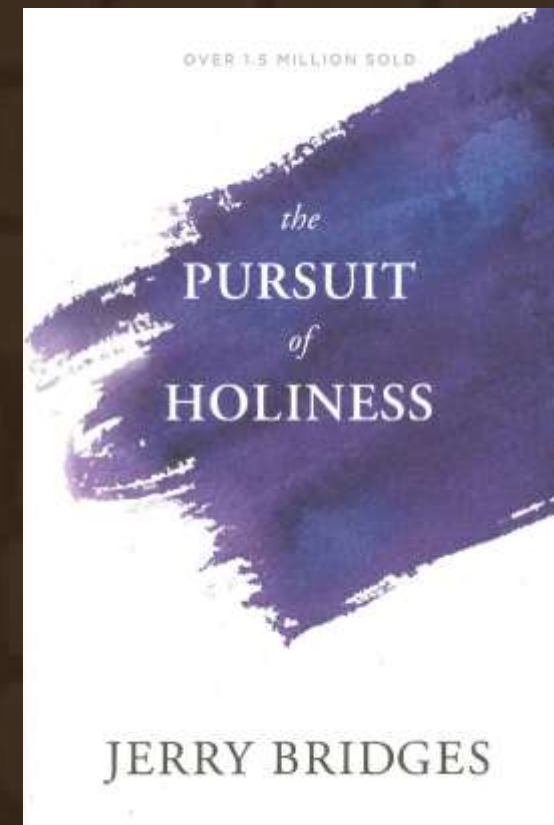
**For the Christian:  
Repent and grow in  
Christ for sanctification**



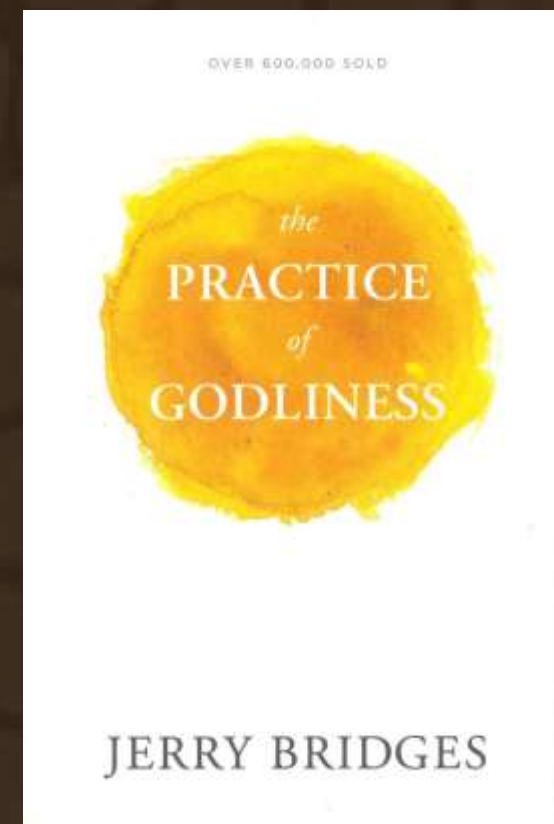
# **Abide with Jesus to grow fruit:**

- **Pray for strength and wisdom.**
- **Study the Word.**
- **Obey what it says.**
- **Confess and repent when you don't.**
- **Think about Jesus a lot and live for Him.**
- **See suffering as an opportunity to grow.**
- **Go to church and serve.**

# For further study on spiritual growth:



## The Pursuit of Holiness *by Jerry Bridges*



## The Practice of Godliness *by Jerry Bridges*