

PART 4: FRUIT INSPECTORS

INTRODUCTION

What should we do when our current reality feels harder, more exhausting, and less fulfilling than we imagined? Jesus teaches truths that can help us find purpose in our lives as they are right now. If we put these truths into practice they will allow us to live more meaningful lives, find value in our present reality, and create a more hopeful future. So what should we do? The next right thing.

KEY SCRIPTURE

Matthew 7:15-23 John 8:12 John 17:3 1 John 5:13

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. Who was your favorite teacher growing up? How is your life different now because of their influence?
- 2. What typically determines who we allow to have influence in our lives—or who our primary "influencers" are?
- 3. Describe the character of the type of person you want to have influence over you and your children or grandchildren? Do the people you or they allow to speak into your/their lives the most (through social media, music, friends, etc.) have the type of character you just described?
- 4. Read Matthew 7:21-23. Pastor Will taught that the true Lord of our life is revealed by our actions, not by our declarations. In what ways are your actions aligned with your declarations? In what ways are they misaligned?
- 5. Are you a disciple (a learner/follower) of Jesus? How do you know? How would others around you know?
- 6. What will you do this week to allow Jesus to have more influence in your life than last week?

Application Prayer: Jesus, I place my faith, my confidence in you as my Lord and forgiver of sin. I choose to follow you and your authority for my life. Help me to know you and become like you.