

Christian-ish

Where Christians Get It Wrong



Message Summary

It's not uncommon to see people who call themselves Christians but who don't act like Jesus. If we're not careful, we can find ourselves doing the work of God without bearing the fruit of the Spirit. Instead of focusing on production, we need to focus on connection with God.

Fruit of the Spirit

- Love
- Joy
- Peace
- Patience
- Kindness
- Goodness
- Faithfulness
- Gentleness
- Self-Control

Key Scripture

"Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. ... This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples."

John 15:4-5, 8 NIV

Additional Scriptures

- Matthew 7:16-17 NKJV
- Galatians 5:25 NIV

Start Talking

Find a conversation starter for your group.

- How has your relationship with God grown or changed during the *Christian-ish* series?

Start Thinking

Ask a question to get your group thinking.

- What are some of your favorite ways to connect with God?
- Read **John 15:4-5, 8**. What are some of the fruits of the Spirit you see in the lives of those around you? What about in your own life?

Start Sharing

Choose a question to create openness.

- How pleased do you think God is with the quality and quantity of your fruit?
- How could you focus on your connection with God this year and grow more fruit of the Spirit in the process?

Start Praying

Gracious Father, thank You for showing us the fruit of the Spirit through the endless ways You care for us. We apologize for the times when we've gotten it wrong and hurt You or the people around us. Please show us how to walk with You daily so we can share Your love with everyone around us. In Jesus' name, amen.

Start Doing

- Spend time reflecting on any growth or changes you've seen in your relationship with God since the beginning of the year. Make a plan for how you'll continue growing in the months to come.
- Start the Bible Plan *What Does It Mean to Follow Jesus* using Plans With Friends: www.go2.lc/jesus
- Consider how you could love others by serving on the weekend or with a Local Mission Partner.