

Questions for Discussion and Reflection

Drawn from “Leaves but No Fruit,” A Sermon on Mark 11:12-25

Pastor Nicoletti @ Faith Pres Tacoma

1/18/26 AM

1. At the heart of the sermon and sermon text is the imagery of fruit. Talk about your favorite fruits and a special memory associated with fruit and/or fruit trees/vines.
2. In the introduction, Pastor Nicoletti talked about “The Marcan Sandwich.” Where do we see that literary device in this text? How does understanding this literary device help us to interpret this passage?
3. Look again at verse 13. Why does Jesus curse a fig tree for **not** having figs, knowing that it “was **not** the season for figs”?
4. Look again at verses 15-19. In his exegesis of these verses, Pastor Nicoletti challenged the popular notion that Jesus is **cleansing** the temple; instead he argued that Jesus is symbolically and proleptically **judging** the temple. Evaluate these two interpretations, using Scripture in your answers.

