

Only Two Kinds of Tree

Matthew 7:15-20

1. Why is fruit from a tree a good analogy for discerning the true identity of a person?
 - a. Because _____ will only produce according to what they are.
 - b. Because _____ will only produce according to what they are.
2. What are the kinds of fruit to which Jesus refers?
 - a. _____ fruit.
 - b. _____ fruit.
3. What will happen if the fruit is bad?
 - a. Bad trees will be cut down and _____.
 - b. _____ people will be condemned to fire.



Matthew 7:15-20

Only Two Kinds of Tree

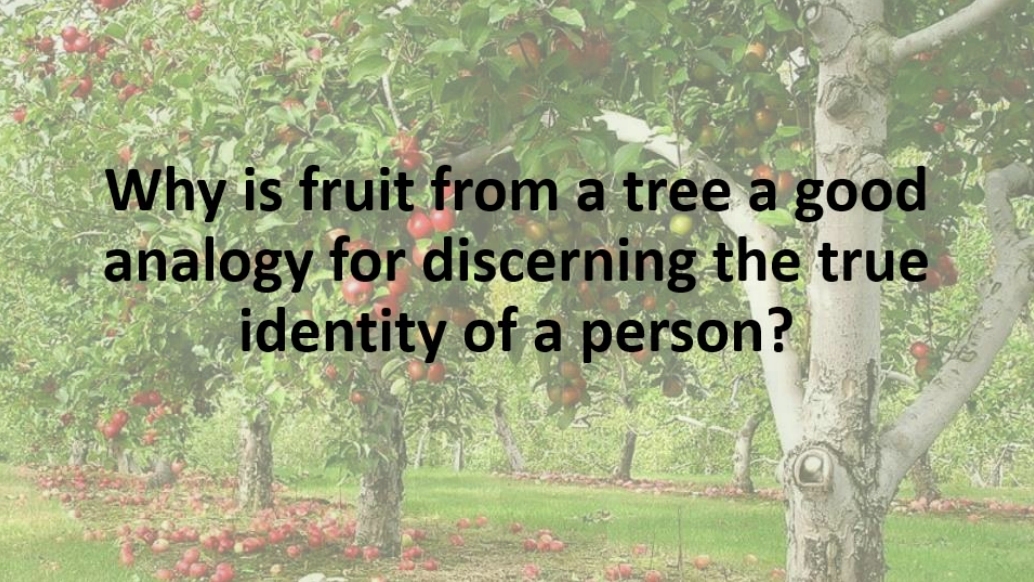
Matthew 7:15-20

Beware of the false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly are ravenous wolves. You will know them by their fruits.

Grapes are not gathered from thorn bushes, nor figs from thistles, are they? So, every good tree bears good fruit; but the bad tree bears bad fruit.

Matthew 7:15-20


A good tree cannot produce bad fruit,
nor can a bad tree produce good fruit.
Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut
down and thrown into the fire.
So then, you will know them by their fruits.



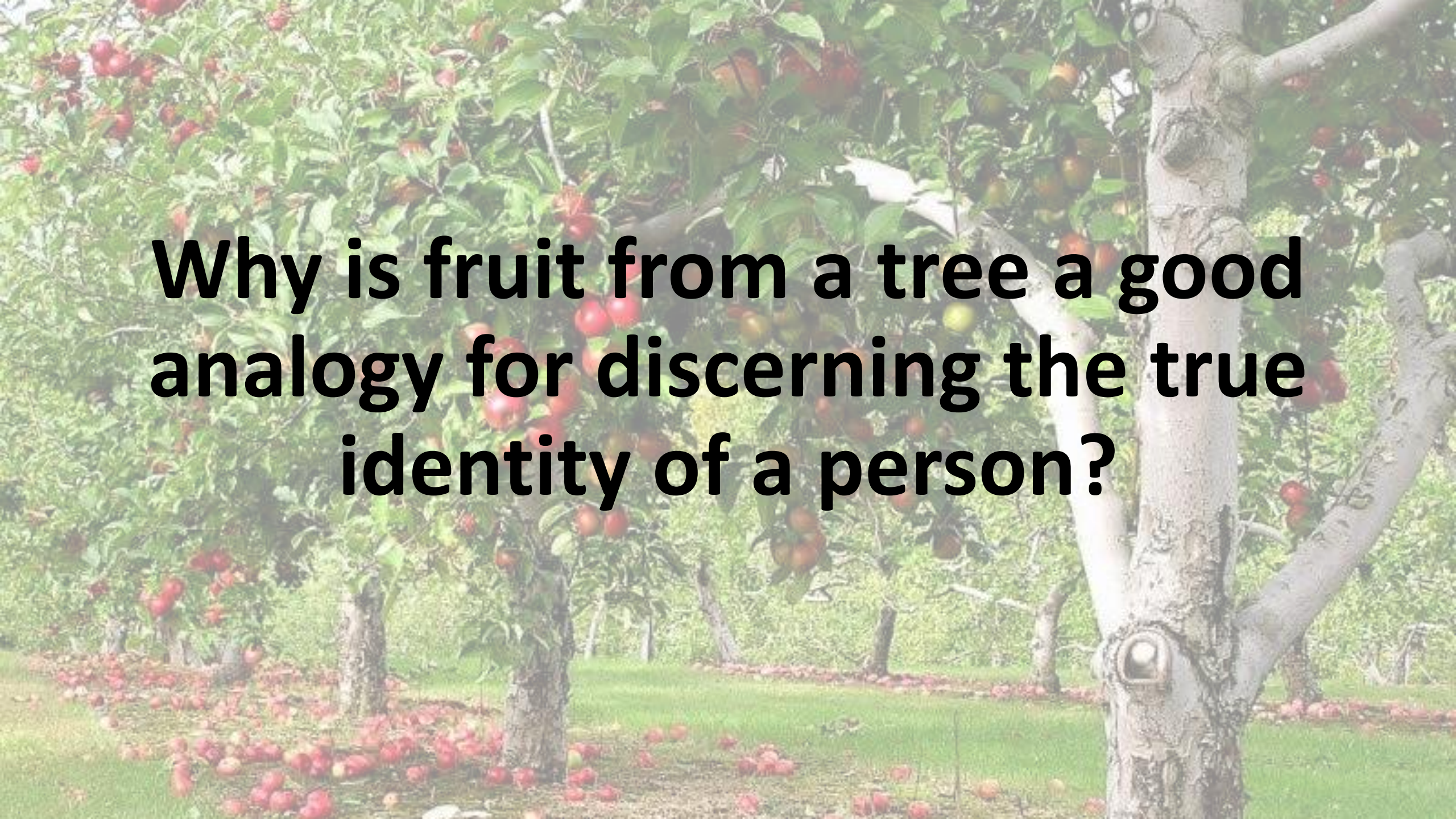
Why is fruit from a tree a good analogy for discerning the true identity of a person?



What are the kinds of fruit to which Jesus refers?



What will happen if the fruit is bad?

An orchard scene with several trees heavily laden with bright red fruit, likely apples. The ground is covered with a layer of fallen red fruit. The trees have green leaves and thick, light-colored trunks. The overall scene is bright and natural.

Why is fruit from a tree a good analogy for discerning the true identity of a person?

Matthew 7:16-20

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Why the analogy of fruit trees?

Because trees will only produce according to what they are.

Matthew 7:16

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Black Ash

Fraxinus nigra



Black Cherry

Prunus serotina



Black Locust

Robinia pseudoacacia



Black Maple

Acer nigrum



Black Oak

Quercus velutina



Black Spruce

Picea mariana

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Why the analogy of fruit trees?

Because trees will only produce in keeping with what they are.

**Because people will only produce
according to what they are.**

Matthew 7:15

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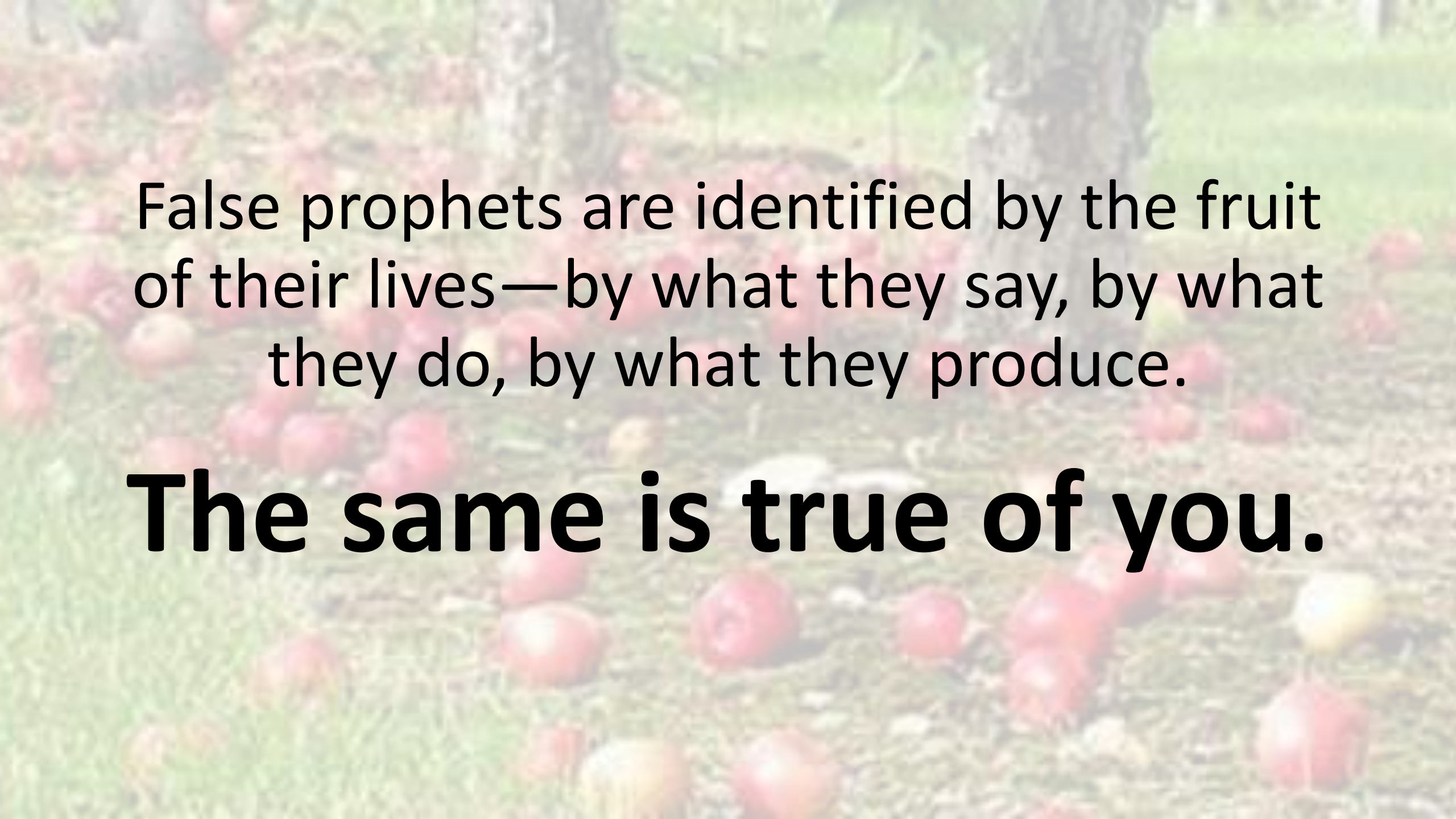
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False prophets are identified by the fruit
of their lives—by what they say, by what
they do, by what they produce.

The same is true of you.

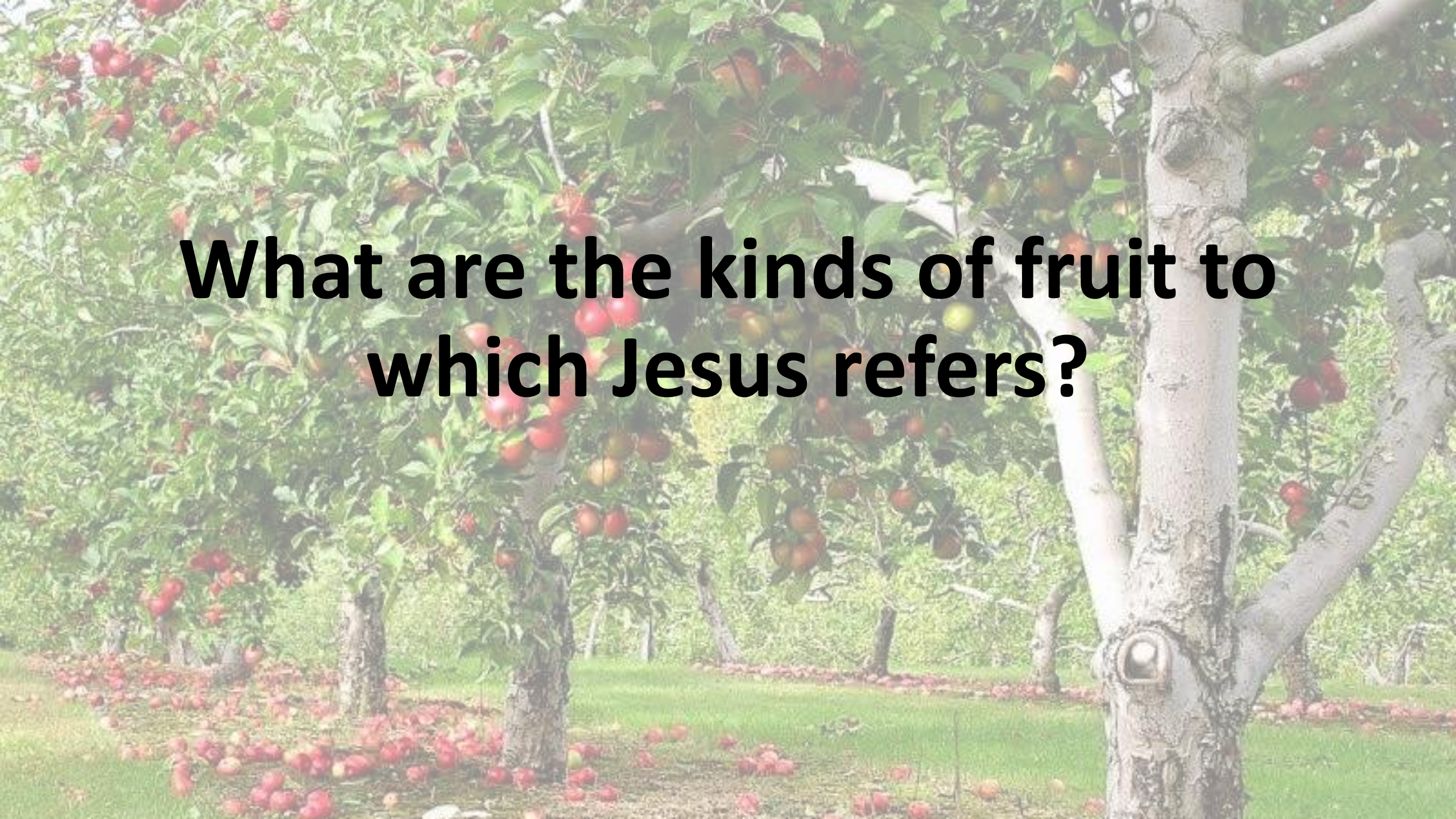
Luke 6:43-45

For there is no good tree which produces bad fruit; nor, on the other hand, a bad tree which produces good fruit. For each tree is known by its own fruit. For men do not gather figs from thorns, nor do they pick grapes from a briar bush.

The good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth what is good; and the evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth what is evil; for his mouth speaks from that which fills his heart.



What you **ARE** is revealed
by the content of your life.

An orchard of apple trees with many red apples hanging from the branches and scattered on the ground. The trees are in a row, and the ground is covered with fallen apples. The text is overlaid on the image.

What are the kinds of fruit to which Jesus refers?



What kinds of fruit?

Bad fruit

Matthew 7:17-18

So, every good tree bears good fruit;
but the bad tree bears bad fruit.
A good tree cannot produce bad fruit,
nor can a bad tree produce good fruit.

Matthew 7:17-18

So, every good tree bears good fruit;

but **the bad tree bears bad fruit.**

A good tree cannot produce bad fruit,
nor can a bad tree produce good fruit.

What is the bad fruit?

Mark 7:20-22

That which proceeds out of the man, that is what defiles the man. For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed the evil thoughts, fornications, thefts, murders, adulteries, deeds of coveting and wickedness, as well as deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride and foolishness.

What is the bad fruit?

Galatians 5:19-21

Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you just as I have forewarned you that those who practice such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.

What kinds of fruit?

Bad fruit

Good fruit

Matthew 7:17-18

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A good tree cannot produce bad fruit,
nor can a bad tree produce good fruit.

Matthew 7:17-18

So, **every good tree bears good fruit;**

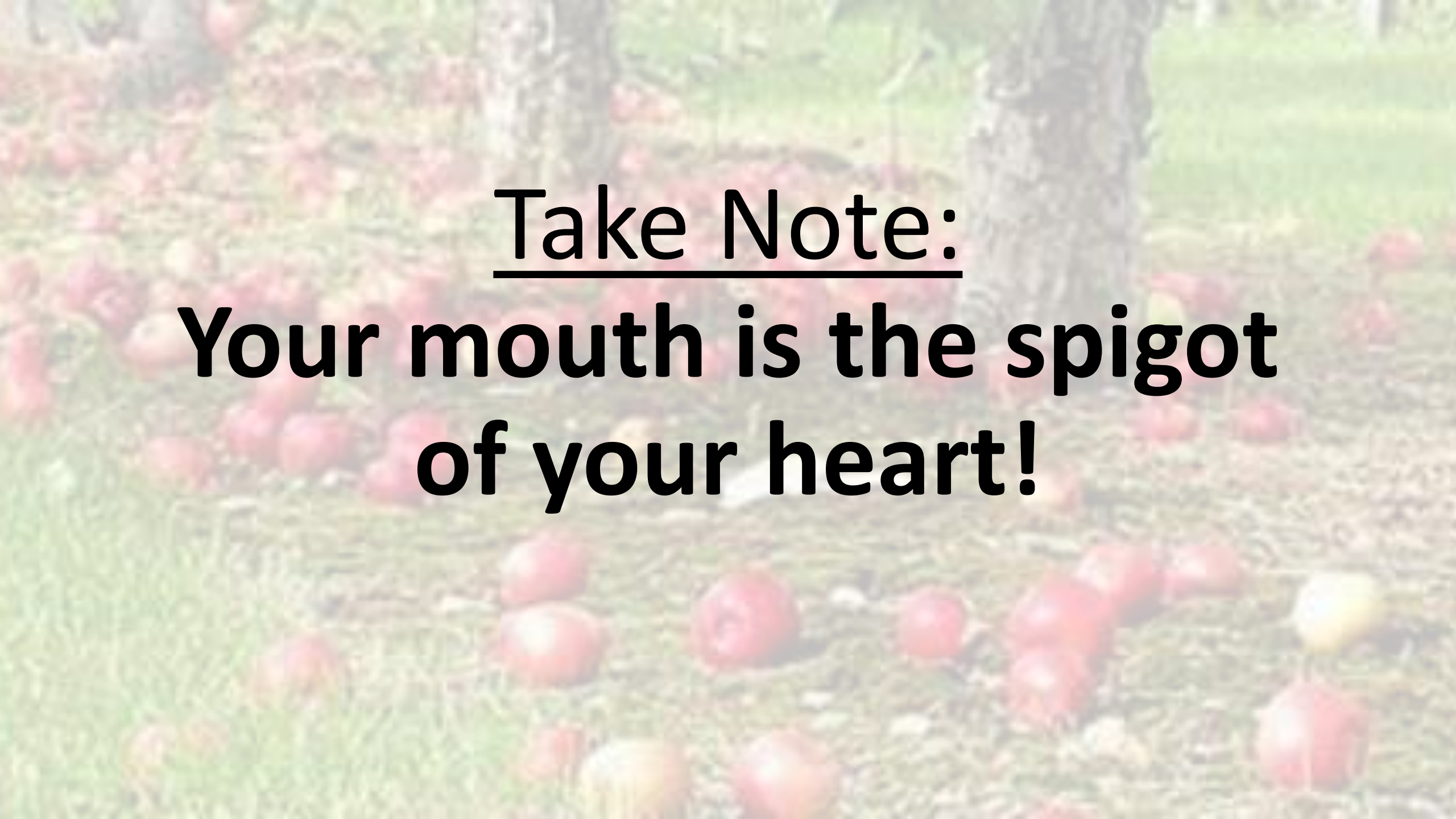
but the bad tree bears bad fruit.

A good tree cannot produce bad fruit,
nor can a bad tree produce good fruit.

What is the good fruit?

Galatians 5:22-23

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.



Take Note:

**Your mouth is the spigot
of your heart!**

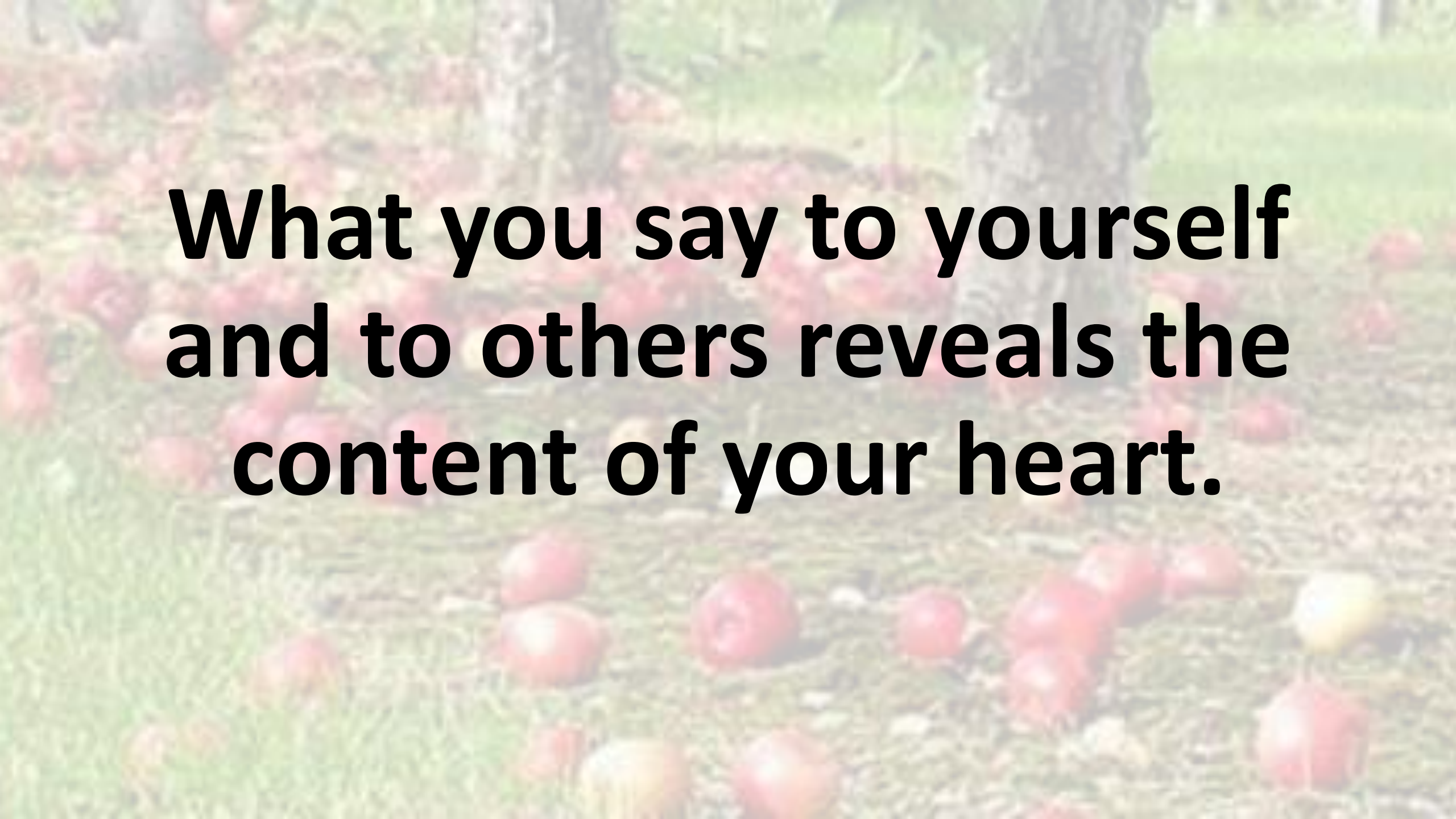
Luke 6:45

The good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth what is good; and the evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth what is evil; for his mouth speaks from that which fills his heart.


Luke 6:45

The good man out of the good treasure
of his heart brings forth what is good;
and the evil man out of the evil treasure brings

forth what is evil; **for his mouth speaks
from that which fills his heart.**



**What you say to yourself
and to others reveals the
content of your heart.**

An orchard scene with several trees heavily laden with red fruit, likely apples. The ground in the foreground is covered with a large number of fallen, ripe-looking fruits. The trees have green leaves and some fruit is still on the branches. The overall scene suggests a harvest time where many fruits have fallen, possibly due to being overripe or damaged.

**What will happen if
the fruit is bad?**

A photograph of a dry, open landscape. The foreground is dominated by a dirt path or road that curves through the scene. The ground is covered with sparse, dry, yellowish-brown grass and small, scrubby bushes. In the background, there are more bushes and a few small trees under a clear sky. The overall scene suggests a semi-arid or arid environment.

What will happen?

**Bad trees will be cut down
and burned.**

Matthew 7:20

Every tree that does not bear
good fruit is cut down and
thrown into the fire.

What will happen?

Bad trees will be cut down and burned.

**Unconverted people will
be condemned to fire.**

Matthew 7:20

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Every tree that does not bear
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**The fruit of a converted life
is obedience to the will
of the Father.**

Matthew 7:20-21

Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

So then, you will know them by their fruits.

Not everyone who says to Me, "Lord, Lord," will enter the kingdom of heaven; but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven.

Matthew 7:20-21

Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

So then, you will know them by their fruits.

Not everyone who says to Me, “Lord, Lord,” will enter the kingdom of heaven; but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven.

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Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

So then, you will know them by **their fruits.**

Not everyone who says to Me, “Lord, Lord,” will enter the kingdom of heaven; but **he who does the will of My Father** who is in heaven.

The end of those who serve themselves and not God is utter and lasting destruction.

Matthew 13:41-42

The Son of Man will send forth His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all stumbling blocks, and those who commit lawlessness, and will cast them into the furnace of fire; in that place there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

**Who you are
is most identified by
what you love.**

**What you love
is most identified by
what you think about
and talk about.**