

A. A Prophetic Illustration

(See Matthew 21:18-19; Mark 11:11-14; Luke 10:38-42; Hosea 9:10; Jeremiah 24:3-8; Matthew 24:32-33; Luke 21:29-31; John 5:39-40; Matthew 23:37-37; Luke 13:34-35)

B. A Personal Exhortation

(See Matthew 21:18-19; Hebrews 10:25; Acts 2:42; Acts 2:44; I John 1:3; I Corinthians 12:12)

C. A Practical Application

(See Matthew 21:18-19; Mark 11:11-14; Genesis 3:7; Luke 13:6-9)

D. A Powerful Promise

(See Matthew 21:21-22; Mark 11:20-24; I John 5:14-15; John 15:7-14; Romans 10:17)

III. Conclusion

If you would like to know more about what it means to be a Christian or if you would like to talk with someone or have someone pray for you, please see the pastor after the service.

All quotations are taken from the New American Standard Bible unless otherwise noted. NASB. Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers 1985.

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Passage of Study
Matthew 21:18-22

¹⁸ Now in the morning, when He was returning to the city, He became hungry. ¹⁹ Seeing a lone fig tree by the road, He came to it and found nothing on it except leaves only; and He said to it, “No longer shall there ever be *any* fruit from you.” And at once the fig tree withered.

²⁰ Seeing *this*, the disciples were amazed and asked, “How did the fig tree wither *all* at once?” ²¹ And Jesus answered and said to them, “Truly I say to you, if you have faith and do not doubt, you will not only do what was done to the fig tree, but even if you say to this mountain, ‘Be taken up and cast into the sea,’ it will happen. ²² And all things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive.”

Parallel Passage of Study

Mark 11:11-14, 20-24

¹¹ Jesus entered Jerusalem *and came* into the temple; and after looking around at everything, He left for Bethany with the twelve, since it was already late.

¹² On the next day, when they had left Bethany, He became hungry.

¹³ Seeing at a distance a fig tree in leaf, He went *to see* if perhaps He would find anything on it; and when He came to it, He found nothing but leaves, for it was not the season for figs. ¹⁴ He said to it, “May no one ever eat fruit from you again!” And His disciples were listening.

²⁰ As they were passing by in the morning, they saw the fig tree withered from the roots *up*. ²¹ Being reminded, Peter *said* to Him, “Rabbi, look, the fig tree which You cursed has withered.” ²² And Jesus *answered* saying to them, “Have faith in God. ²³ Truly I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, ‘Be taken up and cast into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says is going to happen, it will be *granted* him. ²⁴ Therefore I say to you, all things for which you pray and ask, believe that you have received them, and they will be *granted* you. ²⁵ Whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone, so that your Father who is in heaven will also forgive you your transgressions. ²⁶ [But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father who is in heaven forgive your transgressions.]”