

Scripture Passage: Luke 21: 29-38

Story Point: In this passage of Scripture, Jesus tells his disciples a parable about a fig tree. A fig tree is just one example of a type of tree that buds before summer. The idea is that when a fig tree buds, there is a certain result — summer is near, and fruit is coming. In the same way, when these signs are seen, Jesus' followers should be reminded that the kingdom is near. Jesus knows our hearts and knows how easily distracted we can be with other things. He goes on to warn the disciples (and us) against some of the ways that we can be distracted (dissipation, drunkenness and cares of this life). He encourages us to pray that we would have strength to persevere and not give into these distractions, keeping our eyes focused on Jesus and anxiously awaiting his return.

Discussion Questions:

- What did you learn from the parable of the fig tree?
- Luke 21:34 mentions the “dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life.” What about our world can distract us from remembering the certainty of Jesus' return?
- How are you personally most tempted to be distracted from watching and waiting for Jesus?
- What things are a part of the way you live now that will seem foolish and regrettable when Jesus comes again?
- What is one new thing that you learned from the sermon or this passage of Scripture? How will knowing this impact the way you think and act?



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