

## Session 5: Cross and Fruit

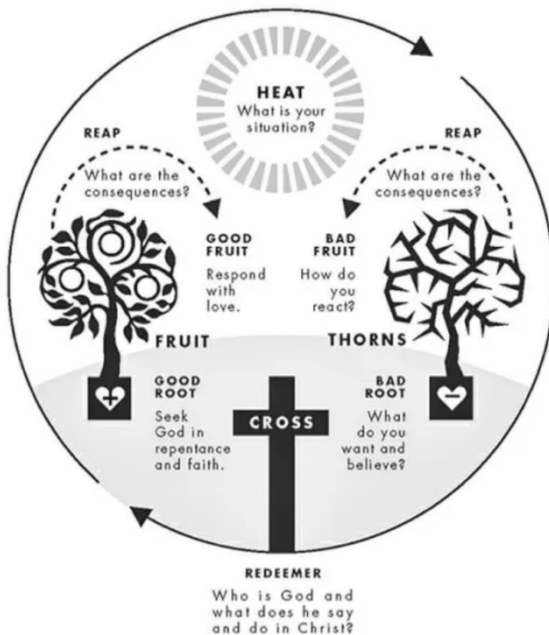
### Introduction

- **Review**
  - **Session 1 – Beholding and Becoming**
  - **Session 2 – Idols of the Heart**

*An idol is **anything** or **anyone** that begins to **capture our hearts and minds and affections** more than God.*

- **Session 3 – The Gospel and Growth**
- **Session 4 – Heat and Thorns**
  - **How-To Solutions to Why Solutions**
- **Session 5 Introduction: Putting something together without the instructions**

### 1. Process of Change Overview: Tree Diagram



- a. **Scripture:** Luke 6:43-45
  - i. Trees and Fruit
- b. **Heat** – What is your situation?
  - i. Circumstances
  - ii. Suffering
- c. **Thorns** – How do you react?
  - i. What are the consequences?
  - ii. What do you want and believe?
    1. James 4:1-2
- d. **Cross** – Who is God and what does He say and do in Christ?
  - i. Forgiveness; Justification; Adoption; Transformation
- e. **Fruit**
  - i. Repentance and Faith
  - ii. How do you react?

### 2. Cross – Who Is God and What Does He Say and Do in Christ?

- a. **New Identity and New Potential**
  - i. **The Indwelling Christ: Gal 2:20**

## ii. Three Redemptive Truths

1. The Redemptive Fact: “I have been crucified with Christ”
2. The Present Reality: “But Christ lives in me”
3. The Results for Daily Living: “The life I live in the body, *I live by faith in the Son of God*, who loved me and gave himself for me”

## iii. Three Redemptive Implications

1. You will live with humility
2. You will create a climate of grace in your relationships
3. You will act with courageous grace and constructive truth

## iv. What if I fail?

### b. The Cross-Centered Life

#### i. Astounding truths

#### ii. Real World, Take One



### iii. Faith and Repentance

1. **Faith:** Seeing who you are in Christ (Seeing Christ's glory and grace and turning to Him)

a. Gospel Truths

- i. 1 John 2:1-2: You are justified!
- ii. 1 John 3:1-3: You are adopted!
- iii. 2 Cor 5:17: I am new!

b. Beholding Christ

- i. Humility: Philippians 2
- ii. Service: Mark 10
- iii. Trust: 1 Peter 2

2. **Repentance:** Admitting and turning from sin (Luke 15: Prodigal Son)

a. Wake Up: "He came to his senses" (v. 17)

b. Own Up: "I have sinned... I am not worthy..." (v. 18, 19)

i. Godly sorrow: Failed to live up to God's standards

ii. Worldly sorrow: Failed to live up to my standards

iii. See the sin beneath the sin

c. Shift Weight: Received his father's gracious embrace (v. 20)

### iv. Real World, Take Two

3. **Fruit – How do you respond in Christ?**

a. Diagnosis



- b. The Heart of Obedience: Overflow of Love
  
- c. Fruit
  - i. Rest in God's sovereignty
  
  - ii. Rest in God's goodness
  
  - iii. Humility and honest assessment of myself
  
  - iv. I will let the Cross shape my relationships (Matthew 18:21-35)
    - 1. Ready and willing to forgive
  
    - 2. I will humbly ask for forgiveness
      - a. Humble honesty: "I was wrong for \_\_\_\_\_."
      - b. Ask for forgiveness: "Please forgive me."
      - c. Compassionate acknowledgement of the pain my sin has caused: "I am sorry for the pain I have caused you."
  
    - 3. I respond to the weakness of others with grace and patience
  
    - 4. I serve with a heart of compassion