

Wednesday

Read Luke 13:4-5 *It can happen to us*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *Recently, we've been reminded of how uncertain our lives can be. How might repentance make your life different? Your world?*
2. *Repentance means making ourselves vulnerable by telling the truth. Why is this so difficult for us?*

Prayer Focus Unless we bring the news of God's love to the world, we can't complain that it's a terrible place. It is up to us to change the world by changing our lives. Wake us up, Gracious Christ. Let us grow in your grace.

Thursday

Read Luke 13:6-7 *A prudent landowner?*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *What is lost if the tree is destroyed? Is there room for repentance?*
2. *What can you do this week to see where you've born fruit and where you need to take action to bear fruit and share it?*

Prayer Focus In this season, we remember all you did for us, Beloved. You made it clear that we can lose our souls to the sins in our lives. Thank you for being the one who cares enough to point out the truth in love.

Friday

Read Luke 13:8-9 *Saving a tree*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *Why do you think the gardener begs to save the tree for one more year?*
2. *What might happen if we allow God to dig in and air out and pour water and nutrients into our lives?*

Prayer Focus Bring us to the full act of repenting, Jesus. Let us confess and be pardoned. Let us make our penance so we can begin to heal, restore, and be reunited with you and others in your name. Turn us back and gather us in.

Nutrients for Fruitfulness

Pastor's message: Luke 13:1-9

Message Notes:

Small Group Format



Welcome

- Introductions/getting acquainted
- Mutual Invitation question: *How are your Lenten practices coming this season? What support do you need?*

Opening Prayer

Song (optional)

Reflection on Scripture

Have someone read: **Luke 13:1-9**

- Discuss observations about the text
 - *What word or phrase strikes you the most?*
 - *What do you think is the most important point of the text?*

Application of Scripture (The central transformative questions)

- What did you hear God say to you through this week's Scriptures?
- What are you doing about it?
- How can we support you?

Share your faith (in groups of 3)

- *How have you experienced God recently in your life?* (This is a weekly question - it may be difficult to answer at first, but if you ask it each week you may start to notice God more in your life.)

Pray for each other

Refreshments (optional)

NUTRIENTS FOR FRUITFULNESS

March 13, 2022

Monday

Read **Luke 13:1-2** *A question of blame*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *In this time of illness, war, and other troubles, do you ever want to blame someone else for the way our world is right now?*
2. *Have you ever thought "At least I'm not as bad as those people?" Where does that thought lead in your life?*

Prayer Focus Jesus, it's so easy for us to point fingers at others and feel proud that we are not like them. You ask us to look to our own lives and hearts and see our own sins. Help us face our truth, Savior.

Tuesday

Read **Luke 13:3** *What can happen without repentance*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *What does repentance mean to you? What does it look like when it's lived out?*
2. *How does it feel to have Jesus say that we will perish if we do not repent? Is it too harsh?*

Prayer Focus Redeemer, you taught that to repent is to turn back, to change our minds. As writer Barbara Brown Taylor put it, being told to repent is a blessing—an offer of saving grace, not a pointing finger. Thank you for the chance to choose repentance over death.