Christ? How do you respond to this pointed question?

# Are You Being Saved?

At Table Life Church we're more concerned about our current transformation than we are about our past conversion. For us the question isn't: were you saved? The question we are concerned with is: Are you being saved? Response? Are you being saved? How is the Spirit of Christ at work in your life right now? Where are your growing edges?



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Order of Worship 24 March 2019 Third Sunday in Lent

# We Gather to Worship God

Prelude Music Welcome Call to Worship Worship Reading

# We Listen to the Scriptures

Pastoral Prayer
Offering
Scripture Reading: Luke 13.1-9
Sermon Series: "Forty Days of Revival"
Sermon Three: "The Fig-less Fig Tree"

#### We Come to the Table

Passing the Peace of Christ
Song of preparation
Prayer of Consecration
The Lord's Prayer
We Eat and Drink Together
Prayer of Thanksgiving

# We Go to Live in the Reign of God

Community Life
Gossiping the Good Stuff
Doxology
Blessing and Sending

# If you are a guest with us today, Please take time to fill out a Connection Card.

Please visit us on our website,

www.tablelifechurch.org for details of events.

Also you will find, Worship folders, Church Calendar, more about our ministries and online giving.

#### **COMING SOON**

March 26 Marysville Table Group	6:30PM
March 27 The Neighborhood Meal Ministry	5:30PM
March 28 New Cumberland/Mech/Etters Table Group	6:30PM
April 6-7 District Assembly	8:00AM
April 9 Team and Board Meetings	6:30PM
April 13 New Hope Yellow Team	9:00AM
April 14 Market Street Breakfast Ministry	7:25AM

<u>Official Church Calendar ~ www.tablelifechurch.org/calendar</u>

# Sermon Reflection Guide

#### Luke 13.1-9

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did." Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?' He replied, 'Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down."

### Question for Everyone

(1) I've got all the time in the world. I'm never in a hurry. (10) My time is exceedingly limited and, therefore, I live my life with intense urgency. Where would you place yourself on this range?

#### Divine Retribution

So what about those worshippers in the two mosques in New Zealand, 50 people slaughtered? God must not love Muslim people, at least not those Muslims. Or those nine Christian folk killed in Charlotte back in 2015. They gathered for a Wednesday night Bible study and were slaughtered by a young man whom they invited into their midst. I wonder, what do they did to deserve that? They must have been the worst sinners among Wednesday night church goers in Charlotte that night. What is Jesus' response to these stories? Why does Jesus respond the way he does to his stories of catastrophe? How does your faith help you explain catastrophe?

#### God is Not in Control

Our sovereign God is the Shepherd of God's people, who we learned last week is like a Mother Hen gathering and protecting her chicks. But her chicks can certainly wander from the protection of the Mother Hen's wings. Why? Because humans are actually and truly free. God is sovereign and humans are free. Sovereignty is revealed in our Scriptures as the relationship between a shepherd and his sheep. Control is more like the relationship between a driver and his/her car. What is the difference between sovereignty and control? Why does this matter?

#### We Are Vulnerable

The truth of the matter is, Jesus doesn't give us an explanation of why bad things happen to some and not to others. Jesus seems only interested in pointing out the very precarious nature of life in the flesh. We are vulnerable. Sometimes this vulnerability places us at the wrong place at the wrong time. Faith in Jesus means that we believe in and through all things, even calamity, God is at work bringing about God's redemptive purposes. But this doesn't mean God pushed that tower down or made Pilate a blood thirsty scoundrel. Do you think everything happens for a reason? Why? Why not?

# The Fig-less Fig Tree

A hard question emerges from Jesus' parable: Can one call oneself a Christian if one is not bearing the fruit of