IS JESUS LORD OF YOUR HEART?

Luke 6:43-49 Key Verse: 46 "Why do you call me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say?"

- 1. How can we recognize a tree's true nature (43-44)? What do you think is the good or bad fruit Jesus has in mind (27, 37, 45b)? What is at the root of our good or bad fruit (45a; Mk 7:21-22)? What do our words, especially, reveal about our heart (45b; see footnote¹)?
- 2. What is Jesus teaching his disciples about living a consistent life (see footnote²; cf.39, 41)? How do Jesus' examples lead us to reflect on the condition of our heart? How can our hearts be changed to bear good fruit (1 Jn 3:9; Jn 15:5; Jas 4:8)?
- 3. Read verse 46. What was the contradiction between the words and actions of those listening to Jesus? How must we respond to Jesus' words if we call him 'Lord' (47)? What are some of the hindrances to people not putting his words into practice?
- 4. How does the wise builder build his house and with what result (48)? How can we dig deep and lay a solid rock foundation in our lives (Ps 1:2; 1 Pe 2:2-3; Jas 1:25)?
- 5. What is one like who hears Jesus' words but does not put them into practice (49)? What does the flood and torrent represent? What will be the result?

¹ The word "stored up" in NIV is literally out of the "treasure" or "treasury" of their heart.

² Many translations drop the connective word $\gamma \dot{\alpha} \rho$ (gar), but over half of major translations begin verse 43 with the word "For" Indicating that this teaching does not stand alone but is a continuation of Jesus' teaching about hypocrisy in those who would teach others, emphasizing self-examination (42b).