



Christmas





**BUSY OR
FRUITFUL?**

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Luke 8:4-15

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“There’s a big difference between busyness and fruitfulness. Some people, they are filled with coffee. They’re returning e-mails, talking on the phone, texting while they’re driving, doing their make-up and their hair while doing Pilates on their

way to work. I mean, they're multi-taskers, they're busy, they're active, they're rushed. They're always late, they're not emotionally present when they're there with you. They're taking calls over dinner—stuff's falling through the cracks.

***They're not sleeping
enough, they're stressed out
and shaking. 'I'm so busy!'
And what they want is
compassion; what they need
is fruitfulness."***

~ Mark Driscoll
How To Be Fruitful

**The fundamental
difference between a
fruitful life and an
unfruitful one is how
we hear God's Word.**

I. Fruitfulness And Salvation

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I. Fruitfulness And Salvation

A. Saved by Grace

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***“For by grace you have
been saved through faith.
And this is not your own
doing; it is the gift of God,
not a result of works, so that
no one may boast.”***

~ Ephesians 2:8-9

I. Fruitfulness And Salvation

A. Saved by Grace

B. Saved to Bear Fruit

“You also have died to the law through the body of Christ, so that you may belong to another, to him who has been raised from the dead, in order that we may bear fruit for God”

~ Romans 7:4

II. The Unfruitful Life



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II. The Unfruitful Life

A. The Word Snatched

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II. The Unfruitful Life

A. The Word Snatched

B. The Word Withered

II. The Unfruitful Life

A. The Word Snatched

B. The Word Withered

C. The Word Choked

C. The Word Choked

1. Cares

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***“Seek first the kingdom of
God and his righteousness,
and all these things will be
added to you”***

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~ Matthew 6:33


C. The Word Choked

1. Cares

2. Riches

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**Is this decision going to
make my life more fruitful
for the Kingdom of God? Is
this decision going to help
me to hear and respond to
God's Word?**

A decorative floral pattern in a dark, muted color, featuring swirling leaves and small flowers, positioned at the bottom of the page.

C. The Word Choked

1. Cares

2. Riches

3. Pleasures

“The greatest enemy of hunger for God is not poison but apple pie. It is not the banquet of the wicked that dulls our appetite for heaven, but endless nibbling at the table of the world. It is not the X-rated video, but the

prime-time dribble of triviality we drink in every night. For all the ill that Satan can do, when God describes what keeps us from the banquet table of his love, it is a piece of land, a yoke of oxen, and a wife (Luke 14:18-20). The

***greatest adversary of love to
God is not his enemies but
his gifts. And the most
deadly appetites are not for
the poison of evil, but for
the simple pleasures of
earth. For when these
replace an appetite for God,***

***himself the idolatry is
scarcely recognizable, and
almost incurable.”***

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~ John Piper
A Hunger For God

III. The Fruitful Life



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***“He who has ears to hear,
let him hear”***

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~ Matthew 11:15

***“He who has ears, let him
hear”***

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~ Matthew 13:9

***“He who has ears, let him
hear”***

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~ Matthew 13:43

