

# Watch for the Fruit

By June Bryan Belfie

Luke 6:43-45

## THOUGHT FOR TODAY

“No good tree bears bad fruit, nor does a bad tree bear good fruit.” Luke 6:43 NIV

Driving home from church one Sunday, my husband absentmindedly moved to the left lane to prepare for our turn. Another driver approached rapidly behind him, appearing out of nowhere. After a persistent lean on the horn and a fist shaken through the side window, the other driver screeched off to our right. My heart was pounding from the episode, but I noticed the driver of the other car had sat one row ahead of us in church. I remembered how he had extended that same hand in welcome to us only an hour earlier.

How often do we leave the sanctuary of believers and return to the old ways. Our culture accepts the little lies and encourages rudeness, but are we truly of this world?

Our fruit is seen by our attitude as we wait in line at the super market or the way we treat someone of a different color or nationality. How do we behave to our waitress if the food arrives cold? Do we show kindness or anger?

Our words and actions will match our heart and spirit. How easy to spend an hour each Sunday in praise and worship, but it's Monday through Saturday that tests the believer. As one church describes it on the way out of their parking lot, “You are about to enter the mission field.”

## PRAYER

Dear Father in Heaven, Fill us with your Spirit so that our lives will bear fruit that is pleasing to you. Help us to live each hour as your witness by showing love and kindness to others. Thank you for the many opportunities to share this fruit with others as we enter our mission field. In the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.