

Unfinished Work

Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Look

We all have projects of some kind. They might be work, family, or hobby, but they all require a personal investment in seeing them develop.

1. What is a project you are currently working on that you feel a real personal stake in?
2. Describe your sense of personal investment in the project and what it's like to see the project make progress.
3. Describe something unfinished about that project that sticks out to you. How does it feel to have that part unfinished?

Book

Luke 13:1-9

Jesus closes out a long section of sermons with this final teaching. It forms a bridge to a healing story, but perhaps more importantly sets a context specific for the Jews of the time.

1. Why were the people present so concerned about the mingling of Galilean blood with sacrifices?
2. Identify each of the elements of the parable and who/what they represent to you.
3. Why give the tree one more year? Why not give it many years more?
4. Bonus: Read v10-17 and discuss how the teaching sets the context for this healing story.

Took

We are all unfinished projects in God's eyes. Whether we see it or not, he's constantly working around us in an effort to bring us to fullness in his kingdom. The key is whether we respond or not. Our mortality set a deadline for us, and it's up to us to decide to respond.

1. In what ways do you feel like God is attempting to nurture you forward currently?
2. How does it make you feel to know that God is not finished with you yet?
3. What one thing can you do this week to respond to God's nurturing hand in your life and "bear fruit" to others?