

You will recognize them by their fruits *(Matthew 7:16)*

In several places the Bible tells us that we will recognize people by their fruits. When the Bible repeats a topic several times, we should take note of it. In this case, the importance of paying attention is of key importance to us. We need to watch others to determine if the things they say line up with the things they do. When people try to tell us they are followers of Jesus, we should be able to confirm that by observing their actions and lives. Christians make mistakes, but they will also repent of them and strive to be more like Christ. Watching for fruits is not judging in a negative way, it is merely paying attention and using wisdom. There are many who attend church, say the right things, but when we observe their lives we find a very different story. Be wary of these people.

Matthew 13: 24-30 "He [Jesus] put another parable before them, saying, "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, 25 but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds[c] among the wheat and went away. 26 So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. 27 And the servants of the master of the house came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have weeds?' 28 He said to them, 'An enemy has done this.' So the servants said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' 29 But he said, 'No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. 30 Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'"

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