

Lesson 2 Pick Your Battles Teacher: Beth Seifert

A woman struggled with yelling at her children. She had tried many times to stop yelling; she had read books, tried meditation, rewarded herself when she went a certain number of days without yelling, but the result always ended up with her falling back into the pattern of yelling at her children. When she found Christ, one of the first things that she surrendered to Him was this issue in her life. A few weeks later, her husband noticed the difference in her and commented. He knew her well, and knew she couldn't have made these changes without help, and she was able to share Who had changed her with her husband.

Read Matthew 3:10, Matthew 7:15-20, and Matthew 12:33-37 According to these verses, how can you tell a good tree/vine from a bad tree/vine?

Why is it important to bear good fruit?

The fruit points to the tree/vine, and tells what type of tree/vine it is. Whether the fruit is good or bad will tell you much about the tree/vine. Read John 15:1-17. Who is the vine to which we are to be attached?

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What part of the vine are we, that we bear fruit?

Our fruit should reflect the tree from which we have grown. If our fruit does not point back to Christ, then we are not part of Him.

Read Philippians 1:1-6. Who began a good work in you? What does that mean?

Read John 11:25-27. Can you save yourself? What is necessary for you not to perish?

Read 2 Corinthians 12:9-10 Do we realize that in our weakness His strength is shown more clearly? When we finally stop trying to do it on our own; to make a resolution to be able to "fix" ourselves, and we rest in His strength and power, His glory is shown.

What are you trying to "fix" today? Are you still relying on your own strength? Are you ready to give it over to Him, that you may not boast in your own strength, but in the power of Christ, for His glory?