

Apples and Oranges

Description

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Luke 6:43-49

My daughter loves clementine oranges. She eats one nearly every day.

The preschool my children have attended makes an annual trip to a local apple orchard every fall. The students learn about the trees, including the different types of apples grown. They get to see how apples are sorted and apple cider is made. You know what they don't see? Clementine oranges.

Jesus was clear, "each tree is known by its fruit" (v. 44). An apple tree does not produce an orange. You can't fake an orange tree by painting an apple orange—it will be discovered one way or another. The only way to produce an apple is to grow an apple tree.

How is it possible for a Christian to grow as a Christian, producing the fruit of the Spirit? Jesus was again clear: build on a strong foundation. Only a firm foundation will keep during life's storms. Intentional discipleship, regular fellowship with a local Body of Christ, and attending the means of grace all are building blocks for a strong foundation.

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