

Homework

Words Matter

Winter 2026 | Week 1

Message Date 1/11/2026

MY STORY

- 1) Growing up, what is a phrase or saying you used often?
- 2) If you had to give up texting or talking on the phone for a week, which would you choose—and why?

QUICK REVIEW

- 3) What caught your attention from Sunday's message?

DIGGING DEEPER / TAKING IT HOME

Matthew 12:33–37 (CSB)

³³ “Either make the tree good and its fruit will be good, or make the tree bad and its fruit will be bad, for a tree is known by its fruit. ³⁴ “Brood of vipers! How can you speak good things when you are evil? For the mouth speaks from the overflow of the heart. ³⁵ “A good person produces good things from his storeroom of good, and an evil person produces evil things from his storeroom of evil. ³⁶ “I tell you that on the day of judgment people will have to account for every careless word they speak. ³⁷ “For by your words you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned.”

- 4) Why does Jesus connect fruit to the nature of the tree rather than focusing on behavior alone?
- 5) How do words function as a “tell” according to Jesus’ teaching?
- 6) What does it mean that “out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks”?
- 7) How does the ROOT and FRUIT illustration help us assess our actions more honestly?
- 8) What happens when the “fountain” of the heart becomes contaminated?

- 9) What kinds of things are commonly deposited into the treasury of our hearts today?
- 10) In your own life, how have you seen words act as a “tell” about what was really going on in your heart?
- 11) What are some things we can do this week to deposit more Jesus into our heart and less junk?

CHAIR TIME TOOLS

Reflection Questions for Chair Time: think about the following questions and pray through them with Jesus.

- 1) Ask God to reveal anything in your heart that may be producing unhealthy words or actions.
- 2) What is one step you can take this week to make healthier, God-honoring deposits into your heart?
- 3) What do you need to stop doing, start doing, or trust God for this week?