Living the Church Year Lesson Plan:
2nd Sunday of Advent

Ages 9-14

Second Sunday of Advent (Hisnag)

Length: 30-40 Minutes

Theme: God Gives Us Time to Bear Fruit

Scripture

- Luke 13:1-9

Main Message

During Advent, we prepare for Christ's coming by turning away from sin and growing closer to God. Like the fig tree in today's Gospel, God gives us time, patience, and opportunities to grow and bear good fruit in our lives.

Learning Objectives

Students will:

- Understand the Parable of the Fig Tree.
- Learn that repentance means turning back to God.
- Identify spiritual "fruits" Christians should show.
- Recognize God's patience and mercy toward us.
- Challenge themselves to bear fruit during Advent.

Opening Prayer (2 Minutes)

Lord Jesus Christ, as we continue through the holy season of Advent, help us grow closer to You. Teach us to repent, to bear good fruit, and to share Your love with others. Open our hearts to hear Your Word and follow Your ways. Amen.

Introduction: What Does It Mean to Bear Fruit? (5 Minutes)

Ask students:

- Have you ever planted a seed or cared for a plant?
- What happens if a tree never produces fruit?
- What kinds of "good fruit" do Christians produce?

Explain:

When Jesus talks about fruit in the Gospel, He is not talking about apples, figs, or oranges. He is talking about the way we live.

Good fruit includes:

- Kindness, Love, Patience, Forgiveness, Generosity, Obedience to God

During Advent, the Church encourages us to examine our lives and ask:

"What kind of fruit am I producing?"

Gospel Lesson: The Fig Tree (10 Minutes)

Read or Summarize Luke 13:1-9

Jesus tells a story about a fig tree that has not produced fruit for several years. The owner wants to cut it down because it is taking up space. But the gardener says: "Leave it alone for one more year. I'll care for it and see if it bears fruit." The owner agrees to give the tree another chance.

Discussion Questions

- Why was the owner disappointed?
- Why did the gardener want to wait?
- What does the tree represent?
- What does the gardener teach us about God?

Teaching Point

The tree represents us.

God has planted each of us in His garden. He gives us families, churches, teachers, friends, and opportunities to grow. Sometimes we do not produce as much good fruit as God desires. Yet God remains patient and gives us another chance. Advent is one of those opportunities.

Application: Repentance and Mercy (5 Minutes)

Explain:

One important Advent theme is **repentance**.

Repentance means:

- Admitting when we have sinned.
- Asking God for forgiveness.
- Trying to change and follow Christ more faithfully.

The fig tree reminds us that God does not give up on us. Just as God is patient with us, we should be patient with others. Before judging, criticizing, or "cutting someone down," we should remember: **We all depend on God's mercy and patience.**

Activity: My Advent Fruit Tree (5 Minutes)

Draw a simple tree on the board or give students a sheet with a tree.

Have students write one "fruit" they want to grow during Advent on each branch:

Examples:

- Kindness, Prayer, Patience, Forgiveness, Helping Others, Respect

Invite volunteers to share one fruit they want to work on during the coming week.

Review Questions (2 Minutes)

1. What was wrong with the fig tree?
2. What did the gardener ask the owner to do?
3. What does the fig tree represent?

4. What does repentance mean?
5. What are some fruits Christians should produce?
6. How can you bear more fruit during Advent?

Take-Home Challenge

- Choose one "fruit" to practice this week:
- Be patient with a sibling.
- Give God thanks for being patient with your mistakes.
- Forgive someone.
- Help a parent without being asked.
- Show kindness to a classmate.
- Prepare for next week by reading Gospel in advance on www.livingchurchyear.org.

When we return next Sunday, be ready to share how you tried to bear fruit for Christ.