

The Watermelon Analogy

Matthew 7:16-17 (TLB)

16 You can detect them by the way they act, just as you can identify a tree by its fruit. You need never confuse grapevines with thorn bushes or figs with thistles.

17 Different kinds of fruit trees can quickly be identified by examining their fruit.

Matthew 7:16-17 (NKJV)

16 You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles?

17 Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit.

In Matthew 7:16-17 we are reminded that **true recognition comes from the fruits we bear**. This analogy can be extended to our spiritual lives, much like our experience with **choosing a watermelon**. Here's a breakdown of the comparison:

1. The Search for Quality

- **Grocery Store Analogy:** When selecting a watermelon, we engage in various methods—thumping, checking for color, and examining the surface.
- **Spiritual Life:** Similarly, believers often seek to discern the quality of their faith through various means—prayer, community, and self-reflection.

2. The Importance of Sound

- **Sound Check:** The sound of a watermelon can indicate its ripeness.
- **Spiritual Insight:** In our spiritual journey, the “sound” can be likened to the inner voice or guidance from the Holy Spirit, helping us recognize what is genuine.

3. The True Test: Taste

- **Cutting Open the Melon:** Ultimately, the true quality of the watermelon is revealed when it is **cut** open and tasted.
- **Fruits of the Spirit:** In our lives, the true measure of faith is revealed through our actions and the “fruits” we produce—love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control (Galatians 5:22-23).

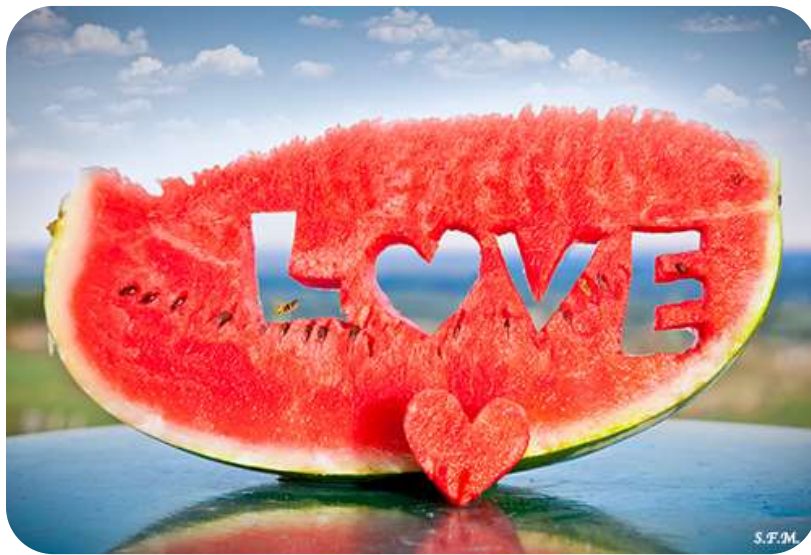
4. Accepting Imperfection

- **Tolerating a Flawed Melon:** Sometimes, we settle for a mediocre watermelon, justifying it with the fact that it's cold and juicy.
- **Spiritual Reflection:** In our spiritual lives, we might also tolerate mediocrity, convincing ourselves that it is sufficient. However, we should strive for a deeper, more fulfilling faith.

Conclusion

Just as we learn to discern the **quality** of a watermelon, we must also cultivate our spiritual lives to bear good, **sweet** fruits. The challenge lies in **consistently** seeking a faith that not only looks good on the **outside** but is rich and fulfilling on the **inside**. Let us strive to be more than just “cold and juicy”—let us **aim** to be truly nourishing to ourselves and others.

[Click here.](#) Main resource.



Romans 12:9-12 (TLB)

9 Don't just pretend that you love others: **really love them**. Hate what is wrong. Stand on the side of the good.

10 **Love** each other with brotherly affection and **take delight** in honoring each other.

11 Never be lazy in your work, but serve the Lord enthusiastically.

12 Be glad for all God is planning for you. Be patient in trouble, and prayerful always.