

## Three Trees Questions and Purposes

### 1. Situation

- a. What is/was the situation?

This focuses attention on circumstances, to clarify issues and details.

- b. What were you thinking and feeling as it was going on?

This helps you probe your heart. What feelings and deep desires are in play?

### 2. Bad Fruit

- a. How did/do you react?

This distinguishes circumstances from personal choices.

This also helps show that behavior flows from the heart's response to the situation.

- b. What is the effect of your behavior?

This brings out the reality of consequences to your choices

### 3. Bad Root

- a. What do you want and believe?

Why did you do it? What were you trying to accomplish?

This lays out the goals of the heart, and exposes your idols, those things to which you have given your ultimate or immediate loyalty.

### 4. Jesus and the good news of who He is and what He did for us.

Repentance and Faith

Jesus, the God/Man Savior has fully accomplished our salvation.

We have complete justification and stand in God's favor through faith in Him.

In him we are dead to sin and alive to God and can faithfully honor Him in life.

Faith working through love by the Holy Spirit bears good fruit for God's glory.

We makes changes as as we rely upon the Lord for help.

### 5. Good Root

- a. What should I want and believe?

- b. How can I demonstrate the integrity, grace and goodness of Christ in this situation?

- c. What promises and commands of God give direction to my faith and love for Christ?

### 6. Good Fruit

- a. How should I respond to the "Situation?"

What patterns of speech and behavior best represent Christ in this situation?

- b. Trust and Obey

Circle of responsibility – I obey – Attitudes and actions I can control, my direct obedience

Circle of concern – I trust – The things I can't control, I must entrust them and myself to God's sovereign control

- c. What is or might be the effect of your behavior?