

## Sermon Based Small Group Questions

### *Mark 11: The Temple*



#### Opening Question

1. Share a time when you exhibited a kind of righteous anger that was fitting given the circumstances.

#### Going Deeper

Read Mark 11:1-18

1. What are some of your first impressions of this passage?
2. In story of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, the crowds are celebrating him as their king. Soon, however, they are going to be shouting "crucify him." What made them change their opinion of Jesus so quickly?
  - a. Most of the Jews misunderstood Jesus, pressing him into a mould that he wouldn't fit (namely, a military leader). What are the moulds that we try to press Jesus into today?
3. What do you make of the story of the fig tree? Why does Mark include the story of the fig tree right before the clearing of the temple?
4. In vs 15-18, Jesus gets angry at the activity that is taking place in the temple.
  - a. People often find Jesus' anger in this passage to be slightly jarring. What does his anger teach us about what it means to be Jesus' disciples?

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- b. What exactly was it that made Jesus so angry?
  
  - c. Think about the things you just mentioned. Which of these things are still issues in the church today?
  
  - d. Dave mentioned in his sermon that churches can often be busy places, and yet somehow neglect the most important things. How might this be true for the church today?
  
  - e. What are the things that *we* might be neglecting, personally, and collectively?
5. In our passage, Jesus is not only challenging the corruption of the temple, but the need for the temple altogether.
- a. Imagine that you are someone who has grown up in a Jewish family. Now read Hebrews 10:19-23. How would this be good news to you?
6. As you reflect on this passage as a whole, how do you sense Christ speaking to you? Where is encouraging you? Where is he challenging you?

*Close in prayer*