

Sermon-Based Discussion

Date 8/7/22 Bryce Taylor

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BIBLE PASSAGES

MARK 11:12-20

Jesus Curses the Fig Tree

12On the following day, when they came from Bethany, he was hungry. **13**And seeing in the distance a fig tree in leaf, he went to see if he could find anything on it. When he came to it, he found nothing but leaves, for it was not the season for figs. **14**And he said to it, **"May no one ever eat fruit from you again."** And his disciples heard it.

Jesus Cleanses the Temple

15And they came to Jerusalem. And he entered the temple and began to drive out those who sold and those who bought in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money-changers and the seats of those who sold pigeons. **16**And he would not allow anyone to carry anything through the temple. **17**And he was teaching them and saying to them, **"Is it not written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the nations'? But you have made it a den of robbers."** **18**And the chief priests and the scribes heard it and were seeking a way to destroy him, for they feared him, because all the crowd was astonished at his teaching. **19**And when evening came they^b went out of the city.

The Lesson from the Withered Fig Tree

20As they passed by in the morning, they saw the fig tree withered away to its roots.

1 Peter 4:17

17For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God?

Group Discussion & Life Challenge

Use these notes as discussion prompts for your group, or in your personal time with God.

Connect:

Get to know each other. Connect, warm up to each other, fellowship.

Care:

Carry each other's burdens. Share life's challenges and practice Soul Care. Pray together.

Challenge:

Dive into God's Word. Use these discussion questions. Learn from each other's insight.

1) Discuss the scene as Jesus enters the Temple and begins flipping tables. How does that make you feel about Jesus?

2) What about this is hard to digest as you think about who Jesus is? On the other hand, why might this make sense?

3) How do you think others perceive Christians and how Christians should respond to injustice?

4) What verses are helpful for you to see what was really going on here?

(reference: 1 Peter 4:17, 1 Corinthians 15:19, Luke 12:53, Mark 7:9)

5) Jesus did not get a fig when He wanted, and He did not get a people who were ready for worship. What does it look like for you this week as you relate to others and Jesus in those moments when things don't go the way you planned?

Clarify:

Does anyone need clarity on something? Are there any big God questions you are wrestling with?

Celebrate:

Celebrate life's successes and God's provision. Worship God's presence. Time to brag about God.

KEY TAKEAWAYS