Equal Access for All Mark 11:12-25

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NOTES

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Suggested Questions for Individual Study or Group Discussion*



- What does it take to clean your home?
- Read Mark 11:11-25. What common themes connect Jesus' actions with the fig tree and within the temple?
- Read *Isaiah 56:1-8*; and *Jeremiah 7:1-15*. How do these Scriptures give background and inform interpretation of Jesus' actions in the temple?
- How does Jesus disrupt the financial, commercial, and religious activities of the temple? What is the effect?
- How does the temple differ from what it is supposed to be, both in who may use it and the activities within it?
- How do the religious leaders and crowds each react to Jesus? How do you image you would have responded in their place?
- Given that Mark has sandwiched the confrontation in the temple between the two parts of the cursing of the fig tree, how do they help explain each other?
- Why does Jesus exhort the disciples to have faith? How do the calls to prayer and forgiveness flow from this?
- How can churches, including our own congregation, appear mature like the fig tree, and yet lack the fruit required? What steps can we take to address this?

For Family Discussion: Ask: Do you like cleaning your bedroom? Why or why not? Read Mark 11:12-25. Ask: What does Jesus want from the fig tree? What does he do when he doesn't find it? What does Jesus want from the temple? What does he do when he doesn't find it? How can we have faith in God like Jesus says?

^{*}Select or adapt questions to fit the needs and makeup of your group.