

Jesus Clears the Temple - Mark 11:12-19

Topics: Anger, Dishonesty, Emotions, Fruit, Money, Prayer, Worship

Open It

- * 1. If you could change one thing about your church, what would it be?
- 2. How well do you think your church fulfills its purpose?
- 3. Over what are you most likely to lose your temper?

Explore It

- 4. Where did the events of this story take place? (11:12)
- 5. Where did Jesus go? Why? (11:12-13)
- * 6. Why did the fig tree have no fruit? (11:13)
- * 7. What did Jesus do to the fig tree? Why? (11:13-14)
- 8. How did this event differ from every other miracle Jesus performed? (11:13-14)
- * 9. What do both the cursing of the fig tree and the cleansing of the temple tell us about Jesus' attitude toward the people of Israel? (11:13-17)
- 10. What happened when Jesus entered the temple area in Jerusalem? (11:15-18)
- 11. Whose authority was Jesus challenging when He drove the money changers from the temple area? (11:17)
- 12. What was Jesus saying about His own authority? (11:17)
- 13. Why was Jesus so upset about the "marketplace" atmosphere in the temple? (11:17)
- 14. How did the crowds and the religious leaders react to Jesus' actions in the temple? (11:18)

Get It

- 15. Why do you think Jesus cursed the fig tree?
- 16. How do you think the disciples reacted to hearing Jesus curse a fig tree?
- * 17. The fig tree had leaves but no fruit; what is one area of your life that looks good, but isn't producing what God wants?
- * 18. How can you grow and become more productive in one of your weak areas?
- 19. What difference does it make to you that Jesus showed anger?
- 20. What practices in the church today do you think hinder non-Christians from coming to Christ?
- 21. Where is God's temple today?
- 22. How should we treat God's temple?
- 23. How do you need to change your attitudes or actions when worshiping?

Apply It

- * 24. What specific steps can you take this week to concentrate on a weak area of your spiritual life, aiming to bear fruit for the Lord?
- 25. How can you show respect for God's temple?