

DISCOVERING LIFE TOGETHER
THE NEED FOR JESUS: HOUSE CLEANING
JOHN 2:12–25

Question: What is ministry supposed to be about?

NOTES:

- Scene 1 (vs. 13-16)
- Insight from John (vs. 17)
- Scene 2 (vs. 18-20)
- Insight from John (vs. 21-25)

Questions for Community Groups and Individual Bible Study:

For Starters: Describe the most beautiful church building you've ever seen – in person or a picture/television. Where was it? What was so great about it?

The Basics: Do a quick scan of John 1:19-51 and John 2:1-12, making note of the timeline. For example, notice that in John 1:29 it says, "The next day...". How much time do you think passed from the days of Jesus being baptized by John the Baptist and his entering the Temple Complex in Jerusalem? If you were an early follower of Jesus like Andrew (John 1:40), what would have been going on in your mind?

Quick Fire Round:

- Read vs. 13-16. Where did Jesus go when He arrived in Jerusalem and why? What was the Passover Festival and why was it so important to the Jews? Jesus took some very decisive actions – list out exactly what He did. What is so significant about what He says in verses 16 after telling those selling doves to get them out of the temple complex?
- Read vs. 17. When do you think the disciples remembered this – as this was happening or later? (Hint, see 2:22a). John may have quoted Jeremiah 7:11 and/or Malachi 3:1-4. Read those and give consideration as to why the Temple was so important.
- Read vs. 18-20. Who took their stand against Jesus? Were these specific Jews or all Jews? What did they think when Jesus said He'd rebuild the temple in three days? What did He mean?
- Read vs. 21-25. What is the difference between believing 'of' Jesus and 'in' Him? Why wouldn't Jesus entrust Himself to those who trusted in His name when they saw the signs? Hint: They enjoyed the spectacle but....
- Read 1 Corinthians 6:19-20. What is the principle? Paul applies this principle to sexual purity, a struggle for the Corinthians (6:18). How can this principle apply to what Jesus saw and did in John 2:13-16?

The Challenge: It is very easy for us to make ministry all about the wrong things – our buildings, our budgets, our structures, etc. Jesus 'cleaned house' because ministry is supposed to be about more and more people bringing glory to His name – nothing less. Pray and reflect on ways that you may be getting it wrong, confess it to God, and go forward in faith.