



LifeGroup Discussion Questions

Invitation to Respect | November 21, 2021

Summary

God uses our uncomfortable experiences to refine and reshape us as He wants us.

Scripture

Three days later they finally discovered him in the Temple, sitting among the religious teachers, listening to them and asking questions. All who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. His parents didn't know what to think. "Son," his mother said to him, "why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been frantic, searching for you everywhere." "But why did you need to search?" he asked. "Didn't you know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they didn't understand what he meant. Then he returned to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. And his mother stored all these things in her heart. -Luke 2:46-51 (NLT)

Then he said, "I tell you the truth, you will all see heaven open and the angel of God going up and down on the Son of Man, the one who is the stairway between heaven and earth." -John 1:51 (NLT)

In the Temple area he saw merchants selling cattle, sheep, and doves for sacrifices; he also saw dealers at tables exchanging foreign money. Jesus made a whip from some ropes and chased them all out of the Temple. He drove out the sheep and cattle, scattered the money changers' coins over the floor, and turned over their tables. Then, going over to the people who sold doves, he told them, "Get these things out of here. Stop turning my Father's house into a marketplace!"

Then his disciples remembered this prophecy from the Scriptures: "Passion for God's house will consume me."

But the Jewish leaders demanded, "What are you doing? If God gave you authority to do this, show us a miraculous sign to prove it."

"All right," Jesus replied. "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up."

"What!" they exclaimed. "It has taken forty-six years to build this Temple, and you can rebuild it in three days?" But when Jesus said "this temple," he meant his own body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered he had said this, and they believed both the Scriptures and what Jesus had said. -John 2:14-22 (NLT)

For husbands, this means love your wives, just as Christ loved the church. He gave up his life for her to make her holy and clean, washed by the cleansing of God's word. -Ephesians 5:25-26 (NLT)

Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing. -James 1:2-4 (NLT)

Let's Start

Growing up, did your family have any "house rules?"

Gratitude and Prayer

How did God work in your life since the last time we were together? What is He doing through you as it relates to your Adopt 7?

Let's Talk

1. Do you struggle with the Jesus of the Bible? If so, how?
2. What does Jesus clearing off the tables at the Temple have to do with us?
3. Is there sacred space for just God in your life?
4. How have trials grown your faith? What unexpected benefit(s) have you experienced as a result of difficult circumstances?
5. In the sermon, Pastor Dale shared the following statements:
God creates a sacred space in our lives through the trials of life!
God creates a sacred space in our lives through the washing of His Word.
Has the Lord created a sacred space in your life through these things? How?

Let's Act

At the end of his message, Pastor Dale asked for us to think about the following statements:

I want you to visualize your heart as a table.

What's on your table? Is it cluttered? How can you turn your table to Him?

Is there any sin on the table that needs to be dumped off?

What specifically, and what steps can you take to get rid of them?

