

## JESUS EXITS THROUGH THE TEMPLE GIFT SHOP

### John 2:10–25 (ESV)

<sup>10</sup> and said to him, “Everyone serves the good wine first, and when people have drunk freely, then the poor wine. But you have kept the good wine until now.” <sup>11</sup> This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and manifested his glory. And his disciples believed in him. <sup>12</sup> After this he went down to Capernaum, with his mother and his brothers and his disciples, and they stayed there for a few days. <sup>13</sup> The Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup> In the temple he found those who were selling oxen and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting there. <sup>15</sup> And making a whip of cords, he drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and oxen. And he poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. <sup>16</sup> And he told those who sold the pigeons, “Take these things away; do not make my Father’s house a house of trade.” <sup>17</sup> His disciples remembered that it was written, “Zeal for your house will consume me.” <sup>18</sup> So the Jews said to him, “What sign do you show us for doing these things?” <sup>19</sup> Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.” <sup>20</sup> The Jews then said, “It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will you raise it up in three days?” <sup>21</sup> But he was speaking about the temple of his body. <sup>22</sup> When therefore he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the Scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken. <sup>23</sup> Now when he was in Jerusalem at the Passover Feast, many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he was doing. <sup>24</sup> But Jesus on his part did not entrust himself to them, because he knew all people <sup>25</sup> and needed no one to bear witness about man, for he himself knew what was in man.

### DISCUSSION:

1. Imagine the thousands of pilgrims crowding the streets and courtyards of the great temple. What can you hear? See? Smell? What is the mood of the people?
2. Why would you need a money-changer in the temple?
3. What provoked Jesus’ anger? What suggests that this wasn’t just an impulsive act/ temper tantrum (v. 15)?
4. John 2:17 quotes Psa 69:9. What does this reveal about Jesus’ motivation?
5. Jesus was a carpenter (stonemason?) from the remote small town of Nazareth. Why didn’t the proud religious leaders stop him?
6. Presumably lots of people saw what was happening in the temple. Why was Jesus the only one to do something? Are there lessons for us regarding situations we may find ourselves in?
7. What tone of voice do you think Jesus is using? What about the religious leaders?
8. Was Jesus’ behavior loving?
9. How would you explain v.24-25?
10. In light of this story, how would you respond to a person that tells you they are fed up with religious hypocrisy?