



# DIGGING DEEPER

## Week 4: Cracking the Whip

Throughout this series we are looking at the Gospel of John! Reading through this book and reviewing some of the background and context of the Gospel will be important to understanding this series.

➔ Check out this Bible Project Summary of the first 12 chapters: [youtube.com/watch?v=G-2e9mMf7E8](https://youtube.com/watch?v=G-2e9mMf7E8)

## GROUP BUSINESS

As the group season is picking up, make sure to plan out and schedule some group events! Every group is encouraged to have a party and serve together during the group session. Find something to celebrate and throw a party! This week see if there are any birthdays, holidays, or special occasions that everyone would be willing to gather for!

## DISCUSS

**Opening Question:** What is the most ridiculous thing you have ever had to clean?

**Read the Key Scriptures as a group.**

1. What are some observations that come to you as you work through this text?
2. What is your reaction to Jesus' cleansing of the temple? Why do you think he cleansed it?
3. Why do you think the Jews demanded that Jesus prove his authority? Why would his authority matter over his actions?
4. The narrative of the passage is broken by John to remind his readers that Jesus' body was the temple he was referring to. Why do you think John emphasizes this and what does it mean for you today?

## WRAP UP

As you wrap up today, make sure that everyone has a way to contact one another; that your group schedule and frequency is known, and that you have planned a party and some sort of service project. If you are looking for ways to serve, feel free to contact [rscott@fairoaks.church](mailto:rscott@fairoaks.church) and she can help plug your group in on Sunday mornings!

## KEY SCRIPTURE

### John 2:12-25 (NRSV)

<sup>12</sup>After this he went down to Capernaum with his mother, his brothers, and his disciples; and they remained there a few days.

<sup>13</sup>The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. <sup>14</sup>In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. <sup>15</sup>Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. <sup>16</sup>He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" <sup>17</sup>His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." <sup>18</sup>The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" <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, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" <sup>21</sup>But he was speaking of the temple of his body. <sup>22</sup>After 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>When he was in Jerusalem during the Passover festival, many believed in his name because they saw the signs that he was doing. <sup>24</sup>But Jesus on his part would not entrust himself to them, because he knew all people <sup>25</sup>and needed no one to testify about anyone; for he himself knew what was in everyone.

