

Mark 11:27-12:12 English Standard Version (ESV)

27 And they came again to Jerusalem. And as he was walking in the temple, the chief priests and the scribes and the elders came to him, **28** and they said to him, “By what authority are you doing these things, or who gave you this authority to do them?” **29** Jesus said to them, “I will ask you one question; answer me, and I will tell you by what authority I do these things. **30** Was the baptism of John from heaven or from man? Answer me.” **31** And they discussed it with one another, saying, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ **32** But shall we say, ‘From man’?” — they were afraid of the people, for they all held that John really was a prophet. **33** So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And Jesus said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.”

1 And he began to speak to them in parables. “A man planted a vineyard and put a fence around it and dug a pit for the winepress and built a tower, and leased it to tenants and went into another country. **2** When the season came, he sent a servant to the tenants to get from them some of the fruit of the vineyard. **3** And they took him and beat him and sent him away empty-handed. **4** Again he sent to them another servant, and they struck him on the head and treated him shamefully. **5** And he sent another, and him they killed. And so with many others: some they beat, and some they killed. **6** He had still one other, a beloved son. Finally he sent him to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ **7** But those tenants said to one another, ‘This is the heir. Come, let us kill him, and the inheritance will be ours.’ **8** And they took him and killed him and threw him out of the vineyard. **9** What will the owner of the vineyard do? He will come and destroy the tenants and give the vineyard to others. **10** Have you not read this Scripture:

“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;

11 this was the Lord's doing,
and it is marvelous in our eyes’?”

12 And they were seeking to arrest him but feared the people, for they perceived that he had told the parable against them. So they left him and went away.

Discussion/Journal Questions

How is everyone doing with the Resolve 2021 goals? How is your time in prayer, Bible, and Christian community going?

Read Mark 11:27-33. What had happened earlier in chapter 11 prompting this confrontation?

What does the religious leaders' response reveal about their heart? What were their priorities?

Read Mark 12:1-12. How does this parable connect with the fig tree from chapter 11?

Who is the owner of the vineyard in this parable? Who are the tenants?

In your own words, why did the Jewish religious leaders reject Jesus?

In the sermon, Sam talked about the dangers of settling for “good enough.” How does “good enough” lead people to reject Jesus?

Read Philippians 3:7-11. What did Paul think about a “good enough life”? Do we have the same vision and passion for Jesus?

What is the danger of thinking that we are good enough to get to heaven without Jesus?

What is the danger of thinking that salvation is good enough? Can someone receive Jesus as Savior without receiving Him as King? Why or why not?

What in your life do you need to reject in order more fully live as a disciple of King Jesus? How can your group help you?

Who are you praying for to accept Jesus, and what specifically did you do this week to interact with them?

Who are you currently discipling, and what specifically did you do this week to help them know, love, and follow Jesus?

Who are you considering for future discipleship relationships, and what specifically did you do this week to interact with them?