

People's Church: Small Group Questions
08.28.16

Speaker: Pastor Dale Oquist
Wired | A Life of Worship

Think about these two questions: Why are you here? What did you bring?

LOOKING BACK: John 2:13-22

Passover is a big deal for the Jews—it's the celebration of God delivering his people from slavery in Egypt. All Jewish males were required to bring a sacrifice from their own home. Jerusalem would swell to 10 times the population during these festival times. This passage takes place during this time while Jesus is going to go from Capernaum to Jerusalem.

Once he gets to the temple, Jesus sees merchants selling animals that were meant for sacrifice.

1. What were some of the issues Jesus had with what was happening at the temple?

Jesus was declaring war on the system of religion—one that is all about consumerism.

DIGGING DEEPER: Consumer vs. Worshiper

2. What is the difference between a consumer and a worshiper? Name some examples from your own life.

We live in a “spend the least, get the most” society. A consumer views church and religion as a place where they can get all of their needs met, without any inconvenience to them.

3. How does the Kingdom of God go against the consumer mentality?

Church is not about you—it's about him. This is what a kingdom mindset looks like. A worshiping life is what you can give, not what you can get.

TAKING IT HOME: The Hasidic Jews

Religious orthodox Jews believe there is only one way to worship God—by studying the Torah. They are paid a stipend to study the Torah in lieu of serving in the military. The Hasidic Jews believed there was more to it than that.

4. Remember the Jewish figurines Pastor Dale brought onstage. What did they represent?

5. Everything you do can be an act of worship, but we're often caught in the trap of consumerism. What about your life or occupation makes it difficult for you to worship?