

The Authority of The Son

Mark 11:27-12:12

The Authority of the Son and the Conflict it Created

(Mark 11:15-18)

- Jesus asserted authority in both word and deed
- The religious leaders saw Jesus as a threat to be eliminated
- His enemies feared the loss of power and prestige

The Authority of the Son in the Baptism of John

(Mark 11:27-33)

- The extent of Jesus authority had always been an issue
- Jesus often asked questions to reveal hidden motives

The Authority of the Son and the Purposes of the Father

(Mark 12:1-12)

- It was a parable both ominous and amazing
 - Amazing in it's portrayal of God's compassion and grace
 - Ominous in it's stark warning of judgment
- Jesus authority is to be recognized in its completeness or resisted at our peril

For Life Group Discussion

Mark 11:27-12:12

1. Are you a rule follower or a rebel, cooperative or independent? On a scale of 1 - 10, what is your default level of resistance to authority? Where does that resistance come from?
2. Read Mark 11:18, 11:32, & 12:12. What exactly were the leaders afraid of?
 - What do we learn from Mark 12:38-39 & Matthew 6:1-5 & 23:1-7?
 - Can we be subject to similar temptations? How?
3. Read Mark 1:27-28 & 2:1-12. Had Jesus adequately demonstrated His authority in the past? Why were they still asking Him to justify it in our text (Mark 11:28)?
4. Read Mark 11:28-30. Why did Jesus often answer a question with a question? What can we learn about interacting with those hostile to the Christian faith?
5. Read Mark 12:1-12 and consider:
 - What can we conclude about the owner of the vineyard, based on Jesus' description?
 - How does the quotation from Psalm 11:18 (vs 10-11) fit with the rest of the story?
 - What does this parable teach us about Jesus' authority and sovereignty?