

John 2:12-22

CG Discussion Guide// Week of October 23, 2022

INTRODUCTION:

- Icebreaker: What is your favorite movie/tv quote?
- Take some time to pray for one another's needs and requests (refer to Prayer Guide as needed)
 - Harbor Network sister church to pray for: Athens Church, Columbus, IN
- Choose discussion questions, prayer guide, or abide time questions depending on your group's needs

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- Was it appropriate for Jesus to be angry? Isn't anger sinful? When is it appropriate or not appropriate to be angry?
- What was wrong with having vendors in the temple?
 - Scholars point out that the area of the temple where the moneymakers and sellers were included the Court of the Gentiles, where God-fearing Gentiles could come and worship Yahweh.
- Think of Jesus' zealous indignation against the vendors. How would that inform how we treat our worship gatherings?
 - What does it teach us about how we ought to approach God and things pertaining to God?
 - Looking back in the past year, would you describe your life as exhibiting appropriate zeal for the Lord's honor and glory? If yes, give examples. If not, what do you think has been the barriers?
- Jesus refers to His body as a temple in this passage. How is this possible? (Remember what the temple is as it relates to God. Cf. 1 Cor. 6:19,20; Col. 1:19, 2:9)
- Compare and contrast Jesus' revealing of His ministry and power to His disciples and the wedding at Cana, with His response to the sign demands of the Jews in the temple.
 - What strikes you about Jesus' answer to them?
- Think about how modern culture (inside and outside the church) caricatures the person of Jesus. How does this story inform or correct how we think about Jesus?

Abide Time: John 2:12-22

- What realities are you facing this week? What is occupying your thoughts? How do you feel?

- Read the passage and let God speak to you in you reality through his Word. Write down your reflections as God shepherds you:
 - What does the text say is true about God and his character?

 - What does it say about the world around you?

- How do your reflections above speak to your reality?

- What did you experience in your heart and soul as God spoke to you and your reality?

- What did you experience in your body, given your reflections and what you experienced in your heart and soul?

- How is God inviting you to live differently?

- What does all of what you shared above say about God and his relationship with you?

WEEKLY PRAYER GUIDE

The Bible promises that anything we ask for in Jesus' name – that is according to His will – shall be granted to us (John 14:13-14). In view of this great promise, the prayer requests are all grounded in Scripture. When we pray Scripture, we can be certain that we are praying according to God's will.

That does not mean God will grant our requests in our preferred time or according to our frail wisdom; but it does mean that we can pray confidently knowing that God delights to answer these requests, for they are His words.

Use the accompanying Scripture verses to shape and inform your prayers.

PRAY FOR YOURSELF & YOUR FAMILY:

- That your daily life will bring honor to the name of Jesus – (2 Thess. 1:11-12)
- That you will cast all of your anxieties on God – (1 Peter 5:6-7)
- That you will consider your trials as an opportunity for joy – (James 1:2-4)

PRAY FOR OUR CHURCH:

- That the power of Christ will rest on our church and ministries [Worship Gathering, Community Groups, Men/Women, Youth, Children, etc.] – (2 Cor. 12:9-10)
- That God will give us the wisdom and faith that we desperately need to continue in faithful mission – (James 1:5-8)
- That God will make us fruitful in ministry – (John 15:1-2) – and bold in witness – (Eph. 6:18-20)

PRAY FOR OUR CITY:

- That God will give wisdom to our government (local, state, and national) that we may lead peaceful, godly lives – (1 Timothy 2:1-2)
- That the Lord will continue to provide open doors of gospel ministry in IU and the Bloomington community– (1 Corinthians 16:9)
- That the work of God will be displayed in the lives of the members of our sister churches – (John 9:3)

PRAY FOR OUR WORLD:

- That the persecuted church will find fellowship with Jesus as they share in his sufferings – (Philippians 3:10-11)
- That the Lord of the harvest will send out more workers to unreached people groups because they have been gripped by Paul's missionary logic in Romans 10:13-17 – (Matthew 9:37-38)
- That Christ will return bringing the fullness of salvation with him – (Revelation 22:20)

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- October 30: Child + Family Dedication
- November 4: Deacons Dinner
- November 9: Harbor Network Renewal Gathering
- November 13: Baptism Sunday
- November 30: Members Meeting

Reminder: All events are listed in the Events tab in our Redeemer app. You can RSVP for specific events by going to the Events tab, clicking on an event, and following the link to register.