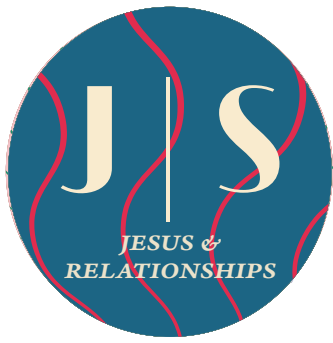




LESSON 2, DEVOTION 1

AS WE TALK ABOUT ANGER AND FRUSTRATION, YOU ARE PROBABLY WONDERING ABOUT HOW TO RESPOND TO THINGS THAT OCCUR ON EARTH THAT MAKE GOD ANGRY. READ MATTHEW 21:12-13.

What is Jesus' response to injustice? It certainly seems as though Jesus is angry in this passage. The difference is that Jesus is angry over wrongdoing. He does not desire harm or destruction of others, but His desire to right a great wrong. The moneychangers were taking advantage of the poor and those who had traveled a great distance to the Temple. They were standing in the way of worship in order to gain more business. This is an important distinction when we think about what it means to be Christ-like.

Think about yourself. Are there some things that should make you angry? What are some godly responses to injustice in the world?

LESSON 2, DEVOTION 2

Ok, we all experience feelings of anger. For some of us that annoying kid in 4th period sets us off. Maybe for you it's thinking about how an ex-boyfriend or girlfriend treated you. Perhaps right now your parents are seriously making you mad. Whatever it is, we all have certain people who upset us. In fact, you probably already have that person's name in your mind. You might be getting angry just thinking about him or her right now.

Write that person's initials down on a piece of paper. Put the piece of paper in your pocket or purse. Every time you see that piece of paper this week take a few moments to pray for that person. Pray that God would give you patience in dealing with him or her. Pray God would bless that person. Pray that God would help you understand him or her better. Pray that God would change your heart from desiring harm for that person to desiring good for him or her.

This is going to be hard I know. But remember God's desire is for us to have healthy relationships free from the dangers of an angry heart.

LESSON 2, DEVOTION 3

"Anger is never without a reason, but seldom a good one." -Benjamin Franklin

This is a great quote from Benjamin Franklin. When you think about it, it is true. Our reasons for getting angry are seldom good reasons.

What if you thought through the reason behind your anger? Seriously, what if every time you experienced anger you took the time to think about the real reason you were angry? More than likely, we would find that our anger doesn't have a good reason behind it.

When you're angry this week, ask yourself this question, "What is the real reason I'm angry right now?"