

M O N D A Y TRUTH: WE ARE TO DRAW NEAR TO GOD IN OUR CORPORATE TIME OF WORSHIP AND GROW IN OUR KNOWLEDGE OF HIM AS BELIEVERS SO THAT WE CAN BE EQUIPPED TO SHINE THE LIGHT OF HIS GOSPEL IN HIS WORLD.

Verse for the week:

You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. . . Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

Matthew 5:14, 16

1. Read Luke 19:41-48. Explain what Jesus says and does in these passages that would have shocked his Jewish audience? Why? Give some other examples in Luke when Jesus surprises those in his crowd by what he says and does.
2. Read Luke 19:45. Explain why this would have been shocking to the Jewish people in Jerusalem? Where were they expecting the Messiah to go? Who were they expecting him to condemn? Where does he go? Who does he condemn?
3. Why did the temple need cleansing? Why did the religious leaders need correction and rebuke?

For Kids: Read Luke 19:41-48. Explain what Jesus says and does in these passages that would have shocked his Jewish audience? Why? Give some other shocking things Jesus says and does during his ministry. Search the Gospel of Luke for answers.

Prayer: Father draw our attention away from the concerns of this world and towards you. Show us that our true spiritual need is not comfort and freedom in this life but peace with God through faith in you.

Answers: 2) While they might have expected Jesus to storm the structures that housed Roman rulers, Jesus stormed the Jewish temple that housed religious leaders. 3) They were corrupt. To Jesus, the issue of greater concern was not Roman occupation, but religious corruption. His ultimate concern was not Rome's relationship to his people, but his people's relationship to God—not them being enslaved to Rome, but being enslaved to sin. His issue was not the condition of his nation politically, but the condition of their hearts spiritually.

T U E S D A Y TRUTH: WE ARE TO DRAW NEAR TO GOD IN OUR CORPORATE TIME OF WORSHIP AND GROW IN OUR KNOWLEDGE OF HIM AS BELIEVERS SO THAT WE CAN BE EQUIPPED TO SHINE THE LIGHT OF HIS GOSPEL IN HIS WORLD.

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Matthew 5:14, 16

1. Read Luke 19:45-48. If Jesus were to enter our cities today, where might he go? Why?
2. Read 1 Corinthians 3:16. Where is the temple found today? What might Jesus' words, both negative and positive, be to the church today? Why?
3. Explain the purpose of our corporate gatherings as a church.
4. What are the reasons people give for why they attend church? Why do you attend? Is it for the right reasons? Take time to read our mission statement in our bulletin and reflect on the real reason you should be here. Pray that God gives you the desire to spend the Lord's Day the Lord's way.

For Kids: Read Luke 19:45-48. If Jesus were to physically enter our city today, where might he go? Why? Read 1 Corinthians 3:16. Where is the temple found today? How might Jesus criticize the church today? How would he praise the church? (See answer number 3.)

Prayer: Father purify us, mold us, and make us like Jesus. Bring us back to a heart of worship that is all about you. Forgive us for what we have made it. Give us a heart for you and help us to live our lives in your will and in accordance with your plan.

Answers: 1) He might visit our churches. 2) Paul tells us that the temple is wherever believers are gathered corporately. 3) Our corporate time together is to be a time when we focus our attention on who God is and what he has done for us. It is to be a time when we grow in our knowledge of him through the study of his word and respond to him in praise and confession. It is to be a time when we express our great need of him to work in our hearts and lives and guide and direct us as we live for him. It is to be a time when we get equipped through the study of his word to do the work of ministry.

W E D N E S D A Y TRUTH: WE ARE TO DRAW NEAR TO GOD IN OUR CORPORATE TIME OF WORSHIP AND GROW IN OUR KNOWLEDGE OF HIM AS BELIEVERS SO THAT WE CAN BE EQUIPPED TO SHINE THE LIGHT OF HIS GOSPEL IN HIS WORLD.

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Matthew 5:14, 16

1. Read Luke 19:45-46. Why does Jesus drive out these religious leaders from this place of worship?
2. Read John 2:13-22, Matthew 21:12-16, Mark 11:15-19. Explain whether Jesus' actions were justified.
3. Give other examples in Scripture of God and his people displaying righteous anger.

For Kids: Read Luke 19:45-46. Why does Jesus get angry and drive out the religious leaders from the temple? Why is it okay that Jesus got angry and lashed out at these men? (See answers from questions 1 and 2.)

Prayer: Father forgive us when we lose sight of your mission. Give us zeal for your name and your ministry. Give us the grace we need to hate sin and be jealous for your glory. Remove anything in our hearts that threaten our love and devotion to you.

Answers: 1) Because they were not encouraging worship in the court of the Gentiles, but were trying to make a profit through the selling of animals for sacrifice and the exchanging of money to pay the temple tax. 2) Jesus displays righteous anger—a holy zeal for his father's house, which brings glory to God. According to Paul in Ephesians 4:26, it is possible to be angry and not sin. Anger can be good if one's motives and purposes are pure. Righteous anger hates injustice, immorality, ungodliness, and every other sin. Jesus expressed righteous anger.

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1. Read Genesis 12:1-3. Why did God choose and bless the Jewish people? How had they lost sight of that calling?
2. This event takes place in the outer courts of the temple where the Gentiles were allowed to gather and worship. Explain why the actions of the Jewish religious leaders hindered their ministry to be a blessing to the Gentiles.
3. What are ways believers hurt their witness for the gospel? What are ways believers enhance their witness for the gospel? Ask God for the grace needed to be a strong witness for Christ.

For Kids: Many of the Jewish religious leaders failed in their ministry to the Gentiles. Instead of witnessing to them and telling them of the one true and living God, they remained separate from them spiritually and treated them poorly. What are ways we can be good witnesses for Jesus? What are ways we can bless those around us with the message of God's gospel?

Prayer: Father give us the courage to share the gospel at every opportunity. May we not be a hindrance but a help in ministry.

Answers: 1) God blessed the Jewish nation to be a blessing to the nations. They were to be the channel through which his blessings flowed. They lost sight of this calling and purpose. Instead of viewing themselves as a channel through which the nations would be blessed, they viewed themselves as the sole recipient of God's blessing and favor. 2) The court of the Gentiles could have been a place where the Jews could witness to their 'pagan' neighbors telling them about the one true and living God. The inner court for the Jewish people could have been a place in the temple where the Jewish leaders prayed for the coming and growth of God's Kingdom. Instead, the Gentile courts had become a place of business and profit—a place of corruption and dishonest gain. The inner court had become a den of robbers.

F R I D A Y TRUTH: WE ARE TO DRAW NEAR TO GOD IN OUR CORPORATE TIME OF WORSHIP AND GROW IN OUR KNOWLEDGE OF HIM AS BELIEVERS SO THAT WE CAN BE EQUIPPED TO SHINE THE LIGHT OF HIS GOSPEL IN HIS WORLD.

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Matthew 5:14, 16

1. Are you a channel through which God's blessings flow or a hindrance to the spread of the gospel and the advancement of God's Kingdom? Take time to write down ways you help and ways you hinder your ministry to your children, family, friends, neighbors, coworkers, etc. Ask God to give you the grace you need to faithfully serve him. Pray that he equips you through the church to make an impact for him in your world.
2. Read Luke 19:47-48. Read Luke 20:1a. Explain how Jesus blessed both Jews and Gentiles.
3. What is the gospel?

For Kids: Explain the gospel. See the answer in question 3 for help. Do you understand what God has done for you in sending his Son Jesus? Do you believe that Christ has accomplished salvation through his life, death, and resurrection? Have you personally responded to his person and work by turning from your sins and placing your faith and trust in Jesus Christ? Would you today?

Prayer: Father we recognize that we are sinners deserving of your judgment. We come to you by faith alone in Christ alone. We also lift up the hearers of this message. We ask that you convict them of sin and lead them to their knees in repentance and to the feet of Jesus in faith.

Answers: 2) He was preaching the gospel to them. 3) Think of it in terms of GOD, MAN, CHRIST, RESPONSE. God is holy and created man to love him and live for him. Man sinned against God and God set himself against man. God sent Christ to live, die, and rise again to make a way for sinful man to be restored to holy God. The way to be restored to God is by responding to the work God has accomplished for us in Christ. Our response must involve both repentance and faith. We must repent of our sins and place our faith and trust in Christ alone for salvation.

JESUS' JOURNEY TO JERUSALEM: THE SURPRISING RESPONSE OF THE TRUE MESSIAH

LUKE 19:45-48

WHILE THEY WERE EXPECTING THE MESSIAH TO STORM THE _____ THAT HOUSED _____, JESUS STORMED THE _____ THAT HOUSED _____

WHILE THEY WERE EXPECTING THE MESSIAH TO _____ FROM THEIR PLACES OF _____, JESUS REMOVED THE _____ FROM THEIR PLACE OF _____

WHILE THE RELIGIOUS LEADERS WERE EXPECTING TO BE _____ FOR THEIR _____, THEY WERE _____ FOR THEIR _____