

# Jesus Defends God's Honor

## KEY THEME

- Jesus rebukes false teachers.

## KEY PASSAGES

- John 2:13–16
- Matthew 23:23–28

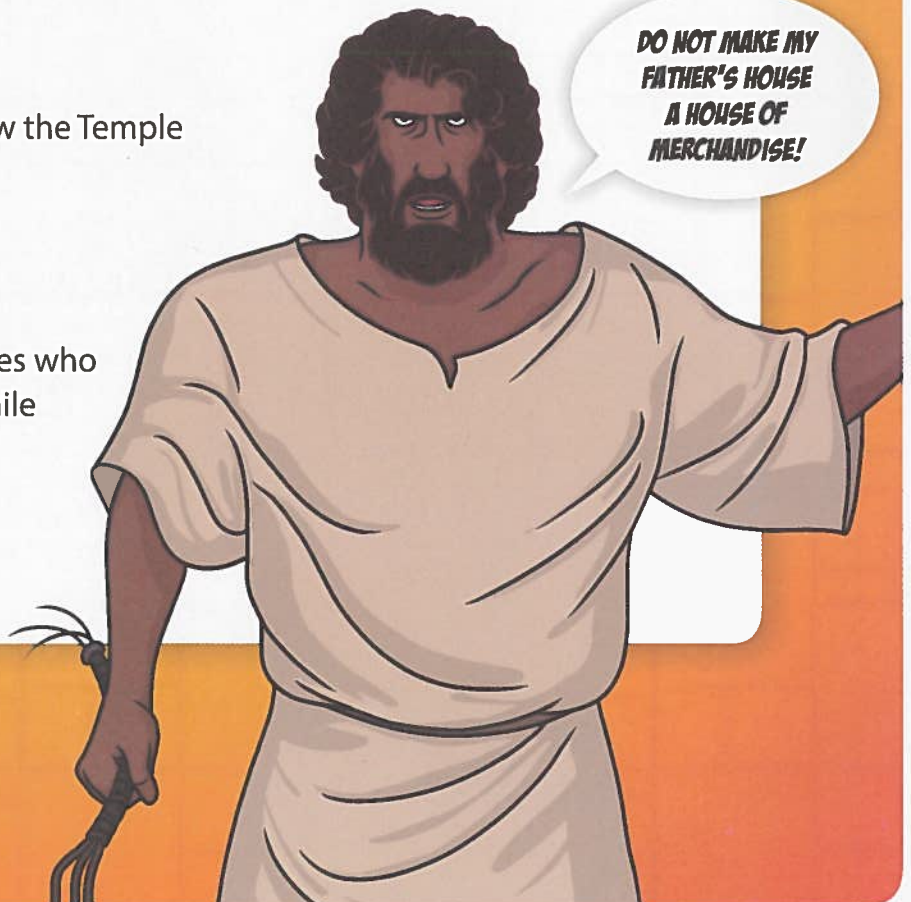


## What You **HEARD** in the **WORD**

- Jesus defended God's honor when He drove the sellers and money changers out of the Temple and when He confronted the religious leaders because they were hypocrites—pretending to be holy while their hearts were wicked.

Answer these questions from today's lesson.

- 1 Why was Jesus angry at the sellers and money changers in the Temple?
- 2 What did Jesus do when He saw the Temple turned into a marketplace?
- 3 What did Jesus call the Pharisees who were pretending to be holy while their hearts were full of sin?



1) God's Temple was to be a place of worship, not a market.  
2) He made a whip and drove them out. 3) Hypocrites.

# Read the Word

## Monday {John 2:13}

Where did Jesus go at the time of the Passover?

## Tuesday {John 2:16}

What were the sellers and money changers making the Father's house into?

## Wednesday {Matthew 23:12}

The Pharisees were proud of their "holiness" and exalted themselves above others. What did Jesus say about those who acted this way?

## Thursday {Matthew 23:28}

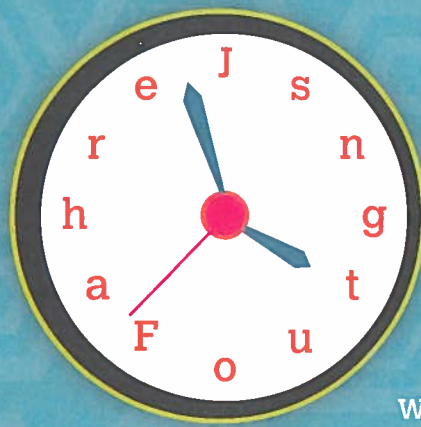
How did the Pharisees appear on the outside? How were they on the inside?

## Friday {2 Corinthians 5:17}

We are all born sinners with wicked hearts. What happens to sinners who are in Christ?

## Saturday {John 14:6}

What did Jesus say about Himself? Do you have this verse memorized?



## Learn the Word

Write the letters of the numbers they have replaced on the clock to complete the verse.

□ □ □ □ □  
12 11 1 5 1

said to him, "I am the

way, the □ □ □ □ □,  
4 10 5 4 9

and the life. No □ □ □ comes to the  
6 2 11

□ □ □ □ □ □ □  
7 8 4 9 11 10 except through Me."

John 14:6

## LIVE the Word

Suppose your friend told you he would believe in Jesus if Jesus were alive today. **What would you say?**

*Living with Jesus would be an amazing privilege! But many of the people who did live with Him, who heard Him talk and witnessed His miracles, rejected Him. They still did not believe. The truth is, even though Jesus is not physically here, we can learn all God wants us to know about Him in His Word. We are so blessed in this country. We have Christian radio stations, Bible-believing churches, ministries that help us grow in our faith, and the freedom to be Christians, to go to church, and to pray. Yet sadly, there are many people who do not follow Jesus. They just don't believe. These people, though seeing, do not see the truth, and, though hearing, they do not hear God's Word. Many people did not believe even though Jesus lived with them. And many people still do not believe even though we have the true Word of God as testimony to His life.*





# Righteous Anger

Why did Jesus throw the sellers and money changers out of the Temple?  
To find out, unscramble the words below and complete the sentence.

Jesus was

\_\_\_\_\_

God's

\_\_\_\_\_

gdneifden

nrhoo

because the

\_\_\_\_\_

was a

meeltp

place of

\_\_\_\_\_

and not a

pwhoris

\_\_\_\_\_

emacartkelp



## The Pharisees Were Condemned

Some of the words in this paragraph are wrong. The mistakes are in **orange**.  
Cross off the words that are mistakes, and write the correct words from the  
Word Box on the lines provided. Then tell someone what really happened.



Jesus defended God's honor when He told the (1) **political**

\_\_\_\_\_ leaders they were not (2) **watching** \_\_\_\_\_

God, because they did not love God or (3) **animals** \_\_\_\_\_.

They were supposed to be role models for the people, but they were just

pretending to be holy. Jesus called them (4) **clowns** \_\_\_\_\_.

Jesus exposed their (5) **joyful** \_\_\_\_\_ hearts.

**Word Box: Hypocrites People Pleasing Religious Sinful**

**SNEAK PEEK**

What are parables? And why  
did Jesus use them? Come  
next week to find out!

## HomeWord

For Parents

**J**esus defended the honor of His Father and showed God's anger against the sin of distorting and maligning God's Word when He encountered corruption among the religious leaders. They had set aside God's Law, invented their own rules, and oppressed the people in the name of God. Jesus addressed these leaders in the name of His Father.

One such rebuke came in the Temple during a Passover celebration (John 2:13–25). Jesus entered the Temple where He encountered money changers and merchants selling animals (John 2:14). The merchants were providing animals for sacrifice during Feast time. The money changers were also there for a service. When Jews came to Jerusalem to pay their Temple tax, they had to use special money. The money changers exchanged people's coins in the Temple.

When Jesus entered the Temple, He was enraged. God's Temple should have been a house of prayer and worship, not a house of merchandise. So, Jesus made a whip and chased them out of the Temple, overturned their tables, and rebuked them for the way they were dishonoring God and His Temple (John 2:15–16).

Jesus spoke with authority and defended His Father. He confronted the scribes and Pharisees for their religious hypocrisy when He called them blind guides, fools, sons of hell, hypocrites, and white-washed tombs full of dead men's bones! These religious leaders appeared righteous on the outside but inside were full of hypocrisy and lawlessness (Matthew 23:13–36). Jesus defended His Father's name and His house of worship.

Go to the Online Resource Page for more information.

## OutWord

For Family Discussion

What if your friend says she is sure she is OK with God because she obeys most of the time and everyone thinks she is a good person? **What could you say?**

*You are a very good friend, for sure. But we have to be careful when we start thinking about ourselves and our own goodness. You need to ask yourself, "Why am I being good?" Is it because I don't want to get in trouble? Or because I want to be rewarded? Or because I want people to like me? That isn't what God wants! He wants us to be obedient and good because we know that Jesus is God, that He died on the Cross so we could be forgiven! God wants us to be obedient because we realize we are new creations in Christ. God wants our obedience to come from a grateful heart—thankful for His love and forgiveness.*

## inWord

For Family Study

Oh, how I love Your law! It is my meditation all the day" (Psalm 119:97). You desire for your children to truly love God's Law. They must know it well and meditate on it often. Help them begin a lifetime of learning and memorizing God's Word!

*Begin with the memory verse in the Learn the Word section inside this handout.*

