

A person is shown from the chest up, holding up the word "NEW" in large, glowing, white letters. The person's arms are extended, and they are wearing a dark green long-sleeved shirt. The background is dark and out of focus.

New Authority **John 2:13-25**

*These questions are provided to lead the group in **applying** the teaching from Sunday. Allow the Holy Spirit to guide you in being a doer of God's Word. Challenge each other and be vulnerable as God works IN and THROUGH you together.*

1. Who has God placed on your heart to invite to The Table (1-Year Rally)? Have you had any table meetings (Church? Community? Cultures?)? If so, how's it going?
2. Why do people sometimes ignore clutter in their lives until it becomes unavoidable?
3. Read John 2:13-25. What happens and what stands out to you most in this story?
4. In verses 13-16, what did Jesus find happening in the temple courts? What was the cluttered and crowded atmosphere affecting? What in your life is crowding out Jesus?
5. How did Jesus respond? Why do you think Jesus reacted so strongly? How is righteous anger different from sinful anger? See Psalm 4:4, Ephesians 4:26, and James 1:19-20.
6. What would you say to someone who uses this story to justify a consistent angry flipping-tables posture toward the world? Whose tables did Jesus flip? Whose tables did Jesus set? What are the applications for us as his BOLD sent followers?
7. There is no longer a physical temple. What form does the temple take today? Read 1 Corinthians 6:19. How open are we to Jesus cleansing this temple?
8. If today, Jesus walked through every room of your temple (your life), what might he remove, cleanse, and restore? What in your life is crowding out Jesus? What tables does Jesus need to flip in your life?
9. In verse 17, why do you think Jesus is so zealous about the purity of worship in his temple? Have you ever confused religious activity with a genuine relationship with Jesus? Explain. What practices help keep your worship sincere and focused on Christ?
10. In verses 18, what question did the religious leaders ask Jesus after he cleansed the temple? Why did they focus on Jesus' authority instead of examining their own hearts to see if he was right?
11. In verses 19-22, what did Jesus mean when he talked about destroying the temple? Why is his resurrection the ultimate proof of Jesus' authority? What does it mean that Jesus is now the true temple? What was in the temple that is now found in Jesus?
12. In verses 23-25, why did Jesus not fully entrust himself to the crowds? How does it encourage you - or challenge you - that Jesus fully knows your heart? What is the difference between shallow belief and genuine faith? How much is your faith dependent on what you see and receive instead of committing to Jesus, himself?
13. How can this group pray for you and our church this week? Pray for people to invite to your Church Table, Community Table, and Cultural Table.