

Discussion & Reflection Questions

Lent 3B Sunday 3rd of March 2024

Read: John 2.13-22

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴ In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money-changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵ Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶ He told those who were selling the doves, 'Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!' ¹⁷ His disciples remembered that it was written, 'Zeal for your house will consume me.' ¹⁸ The Jews then said to him, 'What sign can you show us for doing this?' ¹⁹ Jesus answered them, 'Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.' ²⁰ The Jews then said, 'This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?' ²¹ But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²² After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

Discussion & Reflection Questions

- 1) The elephant in the room in this gospel reading is the way that Jesus deals with conflict. What do you make of a seemingly angry Jesus?
- 2) The catalyst for Jesus is what he sees & experiences in & around the temple. What do you need to be attentive to when it comes to what happens in & around our worship?
- 3) What makes a sacred or holy space sacred or holy?
- 4) How does expression our emotions & passions lead to wellness & wellbeing? For us and for others? How is this modelled by Jesus?
- 5) This experience becomes a teachable moment (even though the disciples don't realise it until much later). How do you learn from "big moments"? How do you pivot your passion & emotions (as valid as they may be) into teachable moments for the benefit of others?
- 6) Jesus uses imagery in his teaching. The bible is full of imagery that triggers the imagination. What is the role of imagery & imagination in teaching & worship?

Prayer

Lord God, our Redeemer, who heard the cry of your people and sent your servant Moses to lead them out of slavery: free us from the tyranny of sin and death and, by the leading of your Spirit, bring us to our promised land; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**