Mark 11:12-19

LOOKING INTO THE SCRIPTURE

JESUS CLEARS THE TEMPLE

Read Mark 11:12-19 and discuss.

Divide into groups of four or five and share how angry each of the following situations makes you by choosing a number from 1 to 5 (1 being NO SWEAT, 2 being MIFFED, 3 being LOW GROWL, 4 being FLARING NOSTRILS and 5 being BLOOD BOILS).

1 2 3 4 5 Getting the run-around/red tape
1 2 3 4 5 Car boils over during 5 o’clock rush
1 2 3 4 5 Political scandals
1 2 3 4 5 Mistreatment of others/bigotry
1 2 3 4 5 Criticism from your mother
1 2 3 4 5 No time left for yourself/someone intrudes on your time
1 2 3 4 5 Violation of your rights
1 2 3 4 5 God is commercialized
1 2 3 4 5 Sunday morning paper gets wet
1 2 3 4 5 Favorite sweater lost at drycleaners
1 2 3 4 5 Preacher preaches past noon
1 2 3 4 5 Cold food at restaurant
1 2 3 4 5 Lose money in a vending machine

2. How would you describe the behavior of Jesus in this passage?
   a. politician
   b. umpire
   c. Marine sergeant
   d. pussycat
   e. tyrant
   f. bull in a china shop
   g. county sheriff
   h. superman
   i. bouncer

3. Do you think Jesus over-reacted in this situation?  □ Yes □ No

4. Why did the chief priests and the teachers of the law start looking for a way to kill Jesus?
   a. he intruded on their turf
   b. he threatened their authority
   c. he exposed them as a bunch of thieves
   d. he ruined their business

5. If Jesus came to clean up your town, where would he start?
   a. city hall
   b. high school
   c. porno shops
   d. church
   e. newspapers
   f. your room

MY OWN STORY/20 Minutes. Take a moment and think about your own reaction to social wrongs or abuse.

1. How would you describe your own response to injustice, abuse, or moral corruption?
   a. pussycat
   b. bull in a china shop
   c. politician
   d. pistol-packing mama
   e. the three stooges

2. When are you more likely to get involved or take action?
   a. when my interests are threatened
   b. when my friends are involved
   c. when a moral principle I believe in strongly is involved
   d. when God tells me
   e. when I think I can make a difference

3. What have you found most effective in changing the behavior of society for the good?
   a. appeal to people’s sense of fairness
   b. work on changing the heart first
   c. change the law
   d. work quietly behind the scenes
   e. overturning a few tables

4. Where is God calling you now to get involved?
   a. winning people to Christ
   b. reaching leaders in the community
   c. getting involved in community programs to assist the poor, underprivileged, or abused
   d. forming a political action task force