

“Closer Walk” Bible Study

Mining Matthew Chapter 21:1-22

Purpose: To share lives around the Scripture and through the power and presence of the Holy Spirit make happy and unexpected discoveries that change our lives and bring us closer in our walk with Jesus.

Getting us started

1. How would you arrange for a visiting President to have maximum exposure in your town: What parades? What TV talk shows or radio call-in programs? Where would you eat? Stay the night?
2. When you see something wrong, are you more likely to act without thinking or think without acting?

Getting us into Scripture

3. To what town has Jesus come? Why?
4. Jesus comes on a donkey and not on a horse. What does that portray?
5. What kind of kingdom and king were the people expecting? How do their wishes compare with the reality of Jesus?
6. How might that discrepancy account for the same crowd jeering and shouting later, “Crucify him!”?
7. What upset Jesus so much about what he saw in the temple (see Isaiah 56:6-7)?
8. Although the merchants once performed a useful service for out-of-towners, how had it become corrupted?
9. In this passage, which groups of people did and did not recognize the significance of Jesus? How do you explain that?
10. How is the fig tree incident a parable about what has happened in the temple and what is to come (see Hosea 9:10-17)?
11. What does this dramatized parable teach about faith? Prayer? Judgment? Jesus?

Getting Scripture into us

12. What difference does it make to you that Jesus is a gentle King, and not like the one described in Matthew 20:25?
13. How would you have reacted if you had been there to greet Jesus riding into town? Do you jump on political or religious bandwagons today? Why or why not?
14. Does Jesus’ humility work for you? Why or why not?
15. If Jesus were to visit your church, where would he begin “turning over tables”? What about in your life?
16. Could the promise of verse 22 be abused? How does it encourage you in your prayer?