

Because Jesus is God, He has the authority to reconstruct how we engage with God.

The curse of religion:

- It's a <u>system</u> we've created to experience God.
- We **corrupt** what is supposed to be sacred.

13 When it was almost time for the Jewish Passover, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. 14 In the temple courts he found people selling cattle, sheep and doves, and others sitting at tables exchanging money. John 2:13-14

15 So he made a whip out of cords, and drove all from the temple courts, both sheep and cattle; he scattered the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. John 2:15

16 To those who sold doves he said, "Get these out of here! Stop turning my Father's house into a market!"
17 His disciples remembered that it is written: "Zeal for your house will consume me." 18 The Jews then responded to him, "What sign can you show us to prove your authority to do all this?" 19 Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days." 20 They replied, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and you are going to raise it in three days?" 21 But the temple he had spoken of was his body.
22 After he was raised from the dead, his disciples recalled what he had said. Then they believed the scripture and the words that Jesus had spoken. John 2:16-22

Temple -the dwelling place of God's Spirit.

• Jesus didn't just flip the tables in the temple — He flipped the <u>definition</u> of the temple. 9 For in Christ lives all the fullness of God in a human body. Colossians 2:9

16 Do you not know that you are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? 1 Corinthians 3:16

The passion of Jesus shows:

"In the temple courts he found people selling cattle, sheep and doves, and others sitting at tables exchanging money. So he made a whip out of cords, and drove all from the temple courts..." John 2:14–15

Jesus confronts what corrupts our worship.

"Search me, God, and know my heart... see if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting." Psalm 139:23–24

19 Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days." 20 They replied, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and you are going to raise it in three days?" 21 But the temple he had spoken of was his body. John 2:19-21

Jesus shifts our focus from buildings to belonging.

19 Don't you realize that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in you and was given to you by God? You do not belong to yourself, 20 for God bought you with a high price. So you must honor God with your body. 1 Corinthians 6:19–20

Jesus wants to restore in us a passion for the <u>sacred</u>.

The sacred gets lost when our hearts become dull.

Zeal for God's presence is a mark of **spiritual health.**

"Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor." Romans 12:11

Additional Not	tes:		



TO CREATIVELY LOVE AND LEAD PEOPLE IN A GROWING RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.

Questions that can be used in Connection Groups:

These questions also work well for personal time with God.

- What scripture and/or point spoke most to you from the Talk on Sunday? Explain.
 - How did the people in the temple corrupt what God has intended to be sacred? How do we do the same thing?
- How did Jesus flip the definition of "the Temple"?
- What are some things that we allow to corrupt our worship?
- What happens in us when we allow God to be someone we just visit on Sundays? Jesus came that we would "belong" to God. What does that mean to you? How does "belonging" to God create a sacred place in us?
- What does it mean for us to have a passion restored for the sacred?
- How do we allow our hearts to become dull to the presence of God?
- What does it mean to have zeal for God's presence? Why is "zeal" a mark of spiritual health?
- How does Jesus want to restore in us what religion has ruined?

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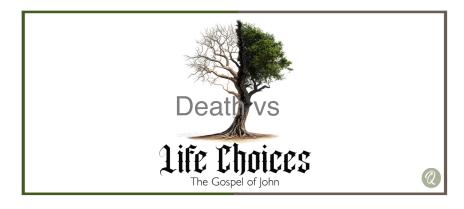
Opportunities to experience community:







Today's Talk..



Cleaning house and flipping tables.

