



4. Read the section of Solomon's prayer of dedication for the temple that is found in *2 Chronicles 6:18-20*, then look up *Mark 11:15-17*. What seems to be the primary offense(s) committed by the money changers? Would the money changers and those selling sacrificial animals have been okay if they were doing the same thing just outside the temple courts? (If you are familiar with the Old Testament concept of 'clean' and 'unclean' bring that into the discussion.)
  
5. Seeing their new leader behave in such a drastic fashion must have been a shock to the disciples. Look up and read *Psalms 69:7-13* and discuss how this passage might have been a comfort to the disciples as they tried to process why their Messiah was acting in such an unusual way. How might this passage have prepared them for what was to come?
  
6. Why did the Jews ask Jesus for a sign? In *1 Corinthians 1:22* Paul says, "*For indeed Jews ask for signs and Greeks search for wisdom.*" If someone desires to have a sign, what beliefs are behind that desire? Consider *Luke 11:29-32* and discuss why Nineveh and the Queen of Sheba did NOT need a sign.
  
7. Why doesn't Jesus simply do a sign and prove he has the authority to cleanse the Temple? Look at *verses 23-25* as you consider this, as well as *John 6:15,64*.

8. In what way was the body of Jesus a temple? Was it 'literally' a temple? Was it more of a temple than the stone structure before which He stood? When we as believers are said to be a temple (*1 Corinthians 6:19 and 2 Corinthians 6:16*) are we a 'literal' temple? Are we more of a temple than the stone structure in Jerusalem?

### **Living It Out:**

1. Is the temple of your body a "house of prayer" or a "house of trade"?

2. If Jesus were to walk into the "temple courts" of your heart would He be reaching for cords to fashion into a whip and clean house?

3. Are you waiting for a sign or some other proof from God before you are willing to fully surrender your body to His will, His righteousness, and His kingdom?

**NOTE TO LEADERS:**

PLEASE DO NOT FEEL THAT YOU HAVE TO GET THROUGH ALL OF THESE QUESTIONS. FEEL FREE TO SELECT THOSE QUESTIONS THAT BEST FIT YOUR GROUP AND ONLY FOCUS ON THOSE. MAY GOD BLESS YOUR STUDY!