



Sermon Reflection Guide

March 29, 2020

1. During this season of COVID-19 craziness, have you cleaned out anything in particular in your spare time? Why did you choose to clean THAT out? When was the last time you cleaned it out?
2. Jesus rode into the city and headed straight to the temple. What do you think the pharisees, sadducees, teachers of the law, and people gathered there thought when they saw him enter in?
3. Jesus confronts the sellers and money changers by saying: 46 *"It is written," he said to them, "My house will be a house of prayer; but you have made it 'a den of robbers.'"* Both of these are old testament quotes. Look them up and discuss why Jesus may have used those particular verses. Isaiah 56:7, Jeremiah 7:11
4. John Gardner in his book *Self-Renewal* writes: *"No organization in the church, business, or government can survive unless from time to time it reexamines its purpose for being and returns to that original agenda."* If we were to reexamine the purpose of why Olive Knolls Church exists, what items might be listed on the original agenda? Are we staying true to our purpose?
5. We know Jesus walks in and cleans out the temple. This will require a moment of honesty and transparency. What does Jesus see as he walks into your temple? Is there anything he would want to clean out of your life? Explain.
6. Why do you think the religious leaders question Jesus' authority to come in and clean house, disrupt things, and teach in the temple?
7. Does Jesus have authority to come in and clean house, disrupt things, and teach you in your life? If yes, In what ways has he done this? Have you given Jesus authority in ALL the areas of your life? Are there "rooms" in the temple that you've made off limits to Jesus?

Optional: Digging Deeper

8. Jesus' authority is called into question. A Rabbi needed three sources of blessing to affirm and seal their authority. Jesus received His from people as well as God. Spend a few minutes looking these up and discussing how each affirmed Jesus authority.
 1. Simeon (Luke 2:25-35)
 2. John the Baptist (John 1:29)
 3. God (Luke 3:21-22)