

HomeWord¹ For Parents

Jesus defended the honor of His Father and showed God's anger against the sin of distorting and maligning God's Word when He encountered corruption among the religious leaders. They had set aside God's Law, invented their own rules, and oppressed the people in the name of God. Jesus addressed these leaders in the name of His Father.

One such rebuke came in the Temple during a Passover celebration (John 2:13–25). Jesus entered the Temple where He encountered money changers and merchants selling animals (John 2:14). The merchants were providing animals for sacrifice during Feast time. The money changers were also there for a service. When Jews came to Jerusalem to pay their Temple tax, they had to use special money. The money changers exchanged people's coins in the Temple.

When Jesus entered the Temple, He was enraged. God's Temple should have been a house of prayer and worship, not a house of merchandise. So, Jesus made a whip and chased them out of the Temple, overturned their tables, and rebuked them for the way they were dishonoring God and His Temple (John 2:15–16).

Jesus spoke with authority and defended His Father. He confronted the scribes and Pharisees for their religious hypocrisy when He called them blind guides, fools, sons of hell, hypocrites, and white-washed tombs full of dead men's bones! These religious leaders appeared righteous on the outside but inside were full of hypocrisy and lawlessness (Matthew 23:13–36). Jesus defended His Father's name and His house of worship.

Go to the Online Resource Page for more information.

OutWord² For Family Discussion

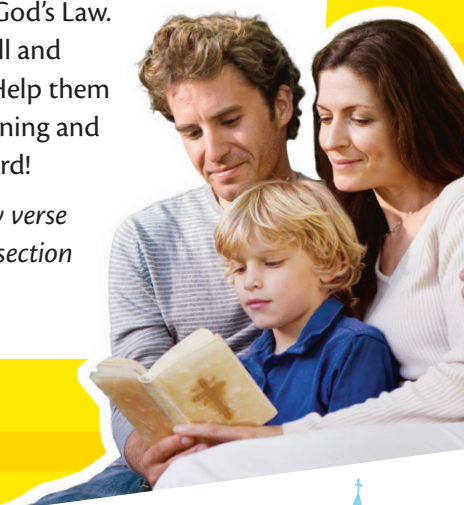
What if your friend says she is sure she is OK with God because she obeys most of the time, and everyone thinks she is a good person? **What could you say?**

You are a very good friend, for sure. But we have to be careful when we start thinking about ourselves and our own goodness. You need to ask yourself, "Why am I being good?" Is it because I don't want to get in trouble? Or because I want to be rewarded? Or because I want people to like me? That isn't what God wants! He wants us to be obedient and good because we know that Jesus is God, that He died on the Cross so we could be forgiven! God wants us to be obedient because we realize we are new creations in Christ. God wants our obedience to come from a grateful heart—thankful for His love and forgiveness.

inWord³ For Family Study

Oh, how I love Your law! It is my meditation all the day" (Psalm 119:97). You desire for your children to truly love God's Law. They must know it well and meditate on it often. Help them begin a lifetime of learning and memorizing God's Word!

Begin with the memory verse in the Learn the Word section inside this handout.



Jesus Defends God's Honor

KEY THEME

- Jesus rebukes false teachers.

KEY PASSAGES

- John 2:13–16
- Matthew 23:23–27

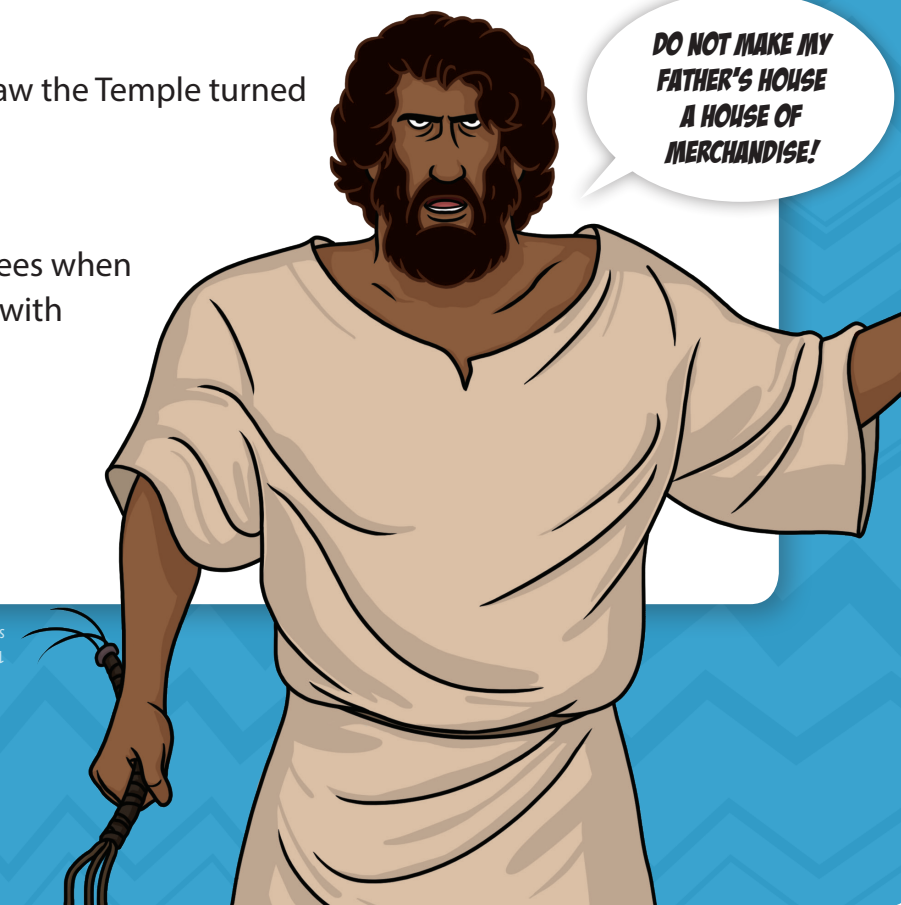


What You HEARD⁴ in the Word

- Jesus defended God's honor when He drove the sellers and money changers out of the Temple, and when He confronted the religious leaders because they were hypocrites—pretending to be holy while their hearts were wicked.

Ask your child these questions from today's lesson.

- 1** What was the Temple in Jerusalem supposed to be used for?
- 2** What did Jesus do when He saw the Temple turned into a marketplace?
- 3** What did Jesus call the Pharisees when they "pretended" to love God with all their heart.



1) To worship God. 2) He made a whip and drove the sellers and money changers out. 3) Hypocrites.

Read the Word with Mom & Dad

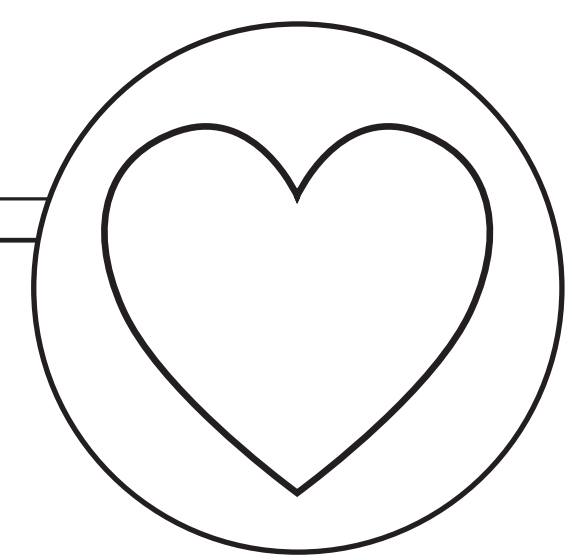
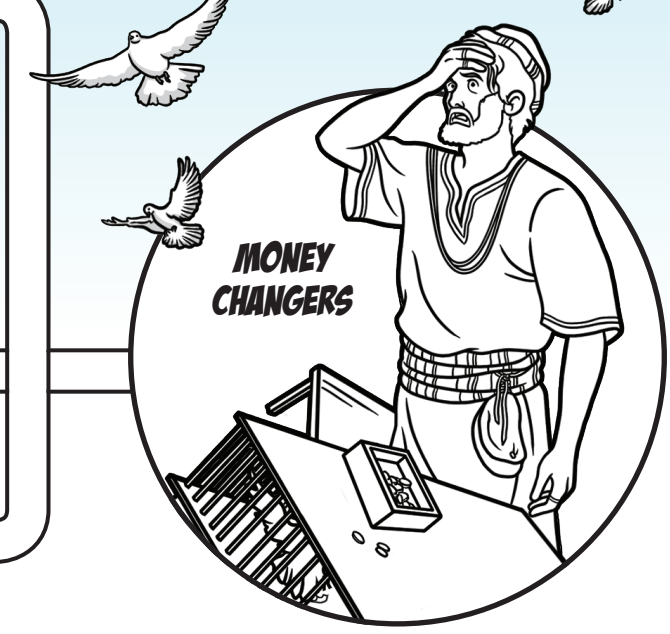
- Monday** (John 2:13)
Where did Jesus go at the time of the Passover celebration?
- Tuesday** (John 2:16)
What were the sellers and money changers making the Father's house into?
- Wednesday** (Matthew 7:21)
Who will be able to enter the kingdom of heaven?
- Thursday** (Matthew 23:28)
How did the Pharisees appear on the outside? How were they on the inside?
- Friday** (2 Corinthians 5:17)
We are all born sinners with wicked hearts. What happens to sinners who are in Christ?
- Saturday** (John 14:6)
What did Jesus say about Himself? Do you have this verse memorized?

Learn the Word!

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."
John 14:6

Righteous Anger

Follow the trails, as they wind over and under, to match the words Jesus said with the correct pictures.



LIVE the Word with Maria and Her Dad

We aren't supposed to get angry at each other. But didn't Jesus get angry?

Yes, He did!

So, was it OK for Jesus to be angry?

Yes, Maria. His was a righteous anger.

He was defending His Father's honor. And He was right to do so.

SNEAK PEEK

What are parables? And why did Jesus use them? Come next week to find out!