



**JANUARY'S THEME**

**COME AND SEE**

SCRIPTURE John 2:13-25

**BOTTOM LINE** JESUS IS WHAT THE CHURCH POINTS TO

MEMORY VERSES 2:21-22

LIFE APP Does your ministry point to Jesus our something else?



- Tonight we will be in the community room for a wedding reception. There will be dancing, cake, and assigned tables.
- Invite your students to wear clothes they would wear to a reception and to be ready to dance!

**MY GOAL FOR THE NIGHT:**

**THINK  
ABOUT THIS**

At the time, in the minds of many people, the place where heaven and earth met was the temple. In some ways this was true as God's presence was truly there, but it missed the overall purpose of the temple. The temple was built to be a signpost to God's future--to Jesus. The trouble was that the temple leadership and many well-meaning Jews had come to see it as an end in itself. Sort of like a dog looks at your finger when you're pointing to something rather than the thing you're pointing at. Jesus wanted to make sure everyone knew where to look.

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- Highs/Lows and Prayer Requests - Share your "highs" and "lows" with the group and then gather prayer requests to distribute to the group for prayer throughout the next week.
- What did you hear tonight? What is the one thing from the message that stuck out to you or made you think in a different way?
- Verse 13 - What do you know about The Passover? Think Moses. **Each year in the spring, Jews celebrate the way that God rescued them from Egypt. A significant part of that story is when they put the blood of the lamb over the doorpost causing God to leave their house alone. Jews would make their way to Jerusalem with a sacrifice of some kind as a pilgrimage to commemorate this part of their history.**
- Are there ways that you, your family, or church community commemorate special ways in which God has worked? **Affirmation of Baptism, Christmas, Holy Week, Easter, Pentecost.**
- Verse 14 - What sacrifices have you made to God? Have you ever thought about offering in this way? **Many people were not able to get a proper sacrificial animal in their area, so they would buy one at the Temple. As these people came from all over, they would need to change their money into the temple currency before they could buy something.**
- Verse 15 - What if every year on your birthday, people threw a birthday party for you, but they didn't invite you? How would you feel? The money changers, the animals, etc in the temple are not the problem per se. What is wrong here is that the whole celebration has forgotten the point which is to worship God.



**PRINCE  
OF PEACE**  
Called to Connect

**STUDENT  
MINISTRY**

**JAN 10**  
SMALL GROUP GUIDE | MS/HS

- In what ways do you think we miss the point in Student Ministry or at Prince of Peace? In what ways do the things we do help you keep your focus on God?
- What would you do if someone came into our sanctuary and started flipping things over? Why do you think they would do that if they did? Would you want to come into our sanctuary and flip some things over? Why?
- Verse 18-21 - This is the confrontation with the Jewish authorities that really gets Jesus in the kind of trouble that eventually gets him crucified. So, when you read the words of the Pharisees, make sure you know just how hot they are.
- The Jewish leaders ask Jesus to perform a miraculous sign to display his authority to do what he had just done to the temple. What is the miraculous sign that Jesus appeals to? **He appeals to the way that he will be crucified and the rise again after three days. This won't be the last time that Jesus talks about his death and resurrection in a way that confuses everyone. You can see in verse 22 that it wasn't until after it had all happened that Jesus' disciples realized what he had been talking about.**
- **Dogs are funny. If you have ever tried to point something out to a dog, chances are that they simply look at your finger and not the thing. The same is true with us. We often look at the things pointing to Jesus (the church, the bible, other christians) but we don't really go in the direction they point.** Why is that? How have you seen this happen in your own life or in the ministries you have been a part of? What do you think would be the difference for you?



# EXTRAS TRY THIS

## Better Signage

**What You Need:** Notepad, pens, or a note-taking app.

**What you Do:** Sometimes it is hard to look for something when you don't know what to look for. Recently I went on a guided tour at a museum and because of the guide I was able to see so much more than I would have had I gone on my own. We need a similar kind of guidance in our relationship with Jesus. We need people, communities, and resources that point us to Jesus. What are those for you? Write those down on your notepad. If you do not have signage that helps you see Jesus, get suggestions from the group and add those to your list. Try to get at least three.

# JUST FOR FUN GAMES ETC.

## Bottle Flip

**What You Need:** 1 water bottle per group

**What You Do:** Each contestant will have 60 seconds to flip a water bottle and land it on its bottom as many times as possible.