

In these two chapters of Mark's gospel Jesus enters Jerusalem. The gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke are structured with Jesus starting away from Jerusalem and moving toward the city as the gospel unfolds. The closer to Jerusalem the more tense the story gets. In reality, Jesus most like visited Jerusalem regularly.

How do the following Biblical Psalms mention Jerusalem?

- Psalm 102

- Psalm 116

- Psalm 135

- Psalm 147

Imagine what Jesus expected as he entered Jerusalem. What do you think Jesus expected?

- Write your reaction to Mark 11:12-19.

- Write your reaction to Mark 11:20-25.

- What do you think made Jesus so angry?
 - What do you think Jesus is angry about today?
 - Are you angry about the same thing? Why or why not?
 - What is something that you do that is motivated by the anger of Jesus Christ?
 - Mark 11:27-33 gives a sense of the growing opposition to Jesus...give it a look.

Mark 12 – Parables and Teaching

Parable of the Tenants – see if you can decode the parable. Who do the following characters symbolize? In other words, who is Jesus really talking about and what does the parable say about them?

- Who is the owner of the vineyard?
- Who is the son?
- Who are the tenants?
- Who are the servants sent prior to the son being sent?
- What does the rejection of the son represent?
- If you were going to preach this parable what points would you make?

Marriage and the Resurrection

Occasionally, popular culture encourages us to believe something that Jesus did not say. In today's world, I once in a while hear the thought that married couples will be married in heaven.

- Do you believe this?
- Summarize Jesus' teaching in Mark 12:18-21 below.

The Greatest Commandment

Mark 12:29-31 offers a synopsis of the Christian life. How do you practice the commands Jesus gives in these verses?

- Hear...
- The Lord is One...
- Love the Lord...
- Love your neighbor...
- Love yourself....