

SERMON APPLICATION GUIDE

Luke 19:45-20:8

Ice Breaker: What's an evidence of God's grace you've seen as you reflect on 2023?

Ice Breaker: What are you looking forward to in 2024?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. **Read Luke 19:45-46:** Where is Jesus in this passage and why is his location significant?
2. Why is Jesus driving out people in the temple? What was happening to make Jesus respond this way? How does the OT quotation from Is. 57:6-8, help us understand Jesus' response?
3. What are some dangers of the love of money and profit that can creep into the church today? What are signs that love of money has crept into church leadership?
4. What are ways we can guard against love of money and exploitation of outsiders in our own fellowship?
5. **Personal Application:** What else might compete for our devotion and attention when we come to worship the Lord? What might need to be "cleaned out" in your own life so that your worship is pure and acceptable to Jesus?
6. **Read Luke 19:47-20:8:** What is unique about Jesus' teaching from this passage that set him apart from other religious leaders?
7. How does Jesus respond to their questioning his authority? Why does he answer them in this way?
8. What are the common "authorities" you see leading people in our day? Who and what do people listen? What is the result of people following these often-competing authorities?
9. Why is recognizing the authority of Scripture so essential for our lives and ministry of our church? What are some signs that display we are a people who hold fast to God's word as our highest authority?
10. How can we as a church continue to be committed to the holding fast to the authority of Scripture and to encouraging others to trust in God's word?