

SERIES TITLE: SERVANT KING

PART FOURTEEN: PRIORITIZING

TEXT: MARK 11:27-12:12

INTRODUCTION TO STUDY

The gospel of Mark portrays Jesus as a Servant on the move. Using the word “immediately” over 40 times, he shows Jesus ministering. Obedient to the Father’s will, Jesus preaches the good news, heals the sick, teaches his followers, and performs miracles. All the while, he heads toward his sacrificial death on the cross. Mark 10:45 sums up his mission: “For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.” Mark’s gospel reveals Jesus to be the perfect Servant and the perfect Sacrifice. Those who receive him as the good news are empowered to serve in his name.

CONTEXT OF SCRIPTURE

Once again, the Temple leaders attempt to discredit Jesus by challenging his authority. Jesus responds in a way that threatens their power and confirms their wish to arrest him. More importantly, he teaches his disciples (and us) that to accept his authority means reordering our priorities to reflect his Lordship.

FOCUS QUESTION

Who are the authority figures in your life? Where does their authority come from?

EXAMINATION

11:27-33

- Why are the priests, scribes and elders concerned about the source of Jesus’ authority?
- How is Jesus question about the authority of John the Baptist relevant?
- Why did the questioners say they didn’t have an answer?

12:1-9

- What are the indications that Jesus is still talking to the priests, scribes, and elders?
- What stands out to you about this parable?
- Is the owner just in destroying the tenants? Why or why not?

12:10-12

- How does this Old Testament quote relate to the story?
- Unlike other parables, the leaders understand it, and know it's about them. Why is that significant?

EXPLORATION

- Psalm 118
- Isaiah 5:1-7
- Matthew 28:18-20
- Luke 6:46-49
- 1 John 5:1-5

APPLICATION.

- Since this passage indicates that Jesus gets his authority from heaven, as the beloved Son, and the cornerstone, what difference should that make in your life?
- Even if someone respects Jesus, what are the consequences if they don't recognize his authority over life?
- Consider Matthew's account of this parable, and how Jesus applies it (21:43). How does this relate to the responsibilities of God's people today?

SUMMATION

- Fact: What is a key truth that you understood from this passage?
- React: What did you feel?
- Act: What are you going to do?