

# Connecting Church and Home

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Quarter 2, Week 11 :: **The Authenticity of a True Servant**

**Treasure Story:** Mark 11:12-25

Sometimes a house is so destitute that it simply needs to be torn down and completely rebuilt. This is the conclusion that Jesus came to about the system of worship in the temple. He was going to have to tear down the temple and its religious tradition and rebuild it.

## Connect

“The Christian does not go to the temple to worship. The Christian takes the temple with him or her. Jesus lifts us beyond the building and pays the human body the highest compliment by making it His dwelling place, the place where He meets with us. Even today He would overturn the tables of those who make it a marketplace for their own lust, greed, and wealth.”

- Ravi Zacharias

From an outside perspective, the temple looked thriving and busy with religious practice. However, those who occupied it were barren and lost. Jesus came to bring life, and the only way He could bring life and newness was by tearing down the temple and rebuilding it. He did this by allowing Himself to be torn down by death and rising from the dead to bring salvation to those who by faith believed. Try the following activities this week as you teach your children this lesson about Jesus and the temple:

- **Cleaning Out Our Temples:** Sometimes we need a reality check. Are we trying to just live a good life and do good things? Some of the people in the temple had chosen this way. But we must realize that only Jesus lived a perfect life. We are to lay down our sins at His feet and rest in Him. He alone forgives and atones for our sin. Look in your own hearts and lay down ways that you rely heavily on yourself and let God work through you through faith.
- **Picking Good Fruit:** As a family, visit a local farm and pick fruit as a family. Use this time to explain to your children that these fruits only grow during a particular season. If we are just living a good life, it can *seem* as though we are fruitful. But Jesus said that living a good life isn't good enough. He requires that we put our faith in Him and believe. Only then can we produce good fruit.

## My Mission As Parent

- Do you give the appearance of fruitfulness in your own life, but you know you are just trying to be a good person? It's hard to depend completely on God. He wants us to come to Him because trying to live a perfect life will only end in vain. We must put our faith in Him and trust that He will save us.
- Is there anything you need to tear down in your life and just start over? You may not even have to start over, but you know that you need to restructure some things. Pray that God would reveal those things in your life so that you are able to live fully for Him and His glory.

## Prayer Points

- Pray that we are not simply looking like a Christian, but that we are living as a Christian as Christ lives through us.
- Pray that God would reveal areas in your life where you need some restructuring or maybe even some rebuilding.
- Praise Jesus that He is our salvation. Praise Him that He died for us so that we can be with God in heaven.