

Study Guide for Jan. 27<sup>th</sup>, 2008. Cleaning (God's) House. John 2:12-25

Introduction: Describe a time you disposed of a pile of clutter. What did you experience after the cleansing process? What are some examples of **spiritual clutter**?

I. Relocation: (John 2:12)

- A. On a map, locate the villages of Cana and Capernaum. How far apart are they?
- B. Compare the relationship between Jesus and his family now (vs. 12) as opposed to the state of their relationship later. See: Mt. 12:41-46, 13:53-58 and John 7:1-9.
- C. Jesus said, "Whoever does God's will is my brother and sister and mother."

II. Rebuke: (John 2:13-17)

- A. What feast does Jesus go up to celebrate in Jerusalem?
  - 1) How were the Jewish people to prepare for this celebration? (Ex. 12:17-20)
  - 2) What Christian application does Paul make of this festival? (I Cor. 5:6-8)
- B. What does Jesus find in the temple courts? Why is this offensive to him?
- C. Write out the words of Jesus' rebuke.(vs. 16) What is he seeking to restore?
- D. How and when did the disciples come to understand the significance of this event?
- E. What aspect of God's character is revealed through this episode? What do we learn?

III. Resurrection: (John 2:18-22)

- A. After the incident at the temple, what do the Jews demand of Jesus?
- B. How does Jesus answer their challenge?
  - 1) When will Jesus give them the sign they demand? (see Matt. 12:38-40)
  - 2) What is the significance of Jesus identifying his body, not Herod's building, as the **temple**?
  - 3) Comment on Paul saying our bodies are God's temple. I Cor. 6:18-20
- C. How and when did the disciples understand the significance of Jesus' answer?

IV. Restraint: (John 2:23-25)

- A. How did the crowds in Jerusalem respond to this public ministry of Jesus?
- B. Why do you think Jesus did not entrust himself to them? What do we learn?