



Bible Reading Group

The gospel of Mark

Chapter 11

The triumphal entry (11:1-11)

- 1 Where are Bethphage, Bethany and the Mount of Olives?
- 2 Can we find out when this event occurred? (Hint: look in John 12)
- 3 Why did Jesus need a colt?
- 4 Was it important that it was a colt that had never been ridden?
- 5 Why do you think the people let the disciples take the colt once they had said "the Lord needs it"? Did they know who "the Lord" was?
- 6 What does "Hosanna" mean?
- 7 Where in the Old Testament do we find the words that the people shouted when Jesus was coming on the colt?
- 8 What may the people have been thinking of when they called out their praises?
- 9 What do you think the disciples may have been thinking when they witnessed Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem?
- 10 Why did Jesus go to the temple and look around?
- 11 Where do you think Jesus and the disciples stayed in Bethany? Had they visited anyone there before?

Jesus clears the temple (11:12-19)

- 12 Why did Jesus look for fruit on the fig-tree when it was the wrong season for figs?
- 13 What season was it?
- 14 Why did Jesus then say "May no-one ever eat fruit from you again"?
- 15 Should people have been buying and selling in the temple area?

- 16 Why were there money changers?
- 17 What were the doves for?
- 18 How do you think those who were buying and selling would have felt when Jesus came and overturned their business? How would you feel?
- 19 Where is it written that God's house will be called a house of prayer for all nations?
- 20 Jesus said that they had made God's house a den of robbers. In what way was their buying and selling equivalent to robbery?
- 21 Why did the chief priests and the teachers of the law fear Jesus?
- 22 Why did Jesus leave Jerusalem each night?

The withered fig-tree (11:20-25)

- 23 What was the purpose of the miracle of the withering of the fig-tree?
- 24 Can we throw mountains into the sea?
- 25 Jesus talks about having faith great enough to throw mountains into the sea? What point was he trying to make?
- 26 Can we really have whatever we ask for in prayer?
- 27 What kind of things can we ask for?
- 28 How can we believe we *have* received something before we have received it?
- 29 Where else does Jesus say that we must forgive others so that we can be forgiven?

The authority of Jesus questioned (11:27-33)

- 30 When Jesus was asked by what authority he was doing things, why didn't he answer directly?
- 31 Who did give Jesus the authority to do what he did?
- 32 Was John's baptism from heaven or from men?
- 33 How did Jesus make answering this question so difficult?