DISCUSSION IDEAS THE MATCHLESS AUTHORITY OF JESUS

Mark 11:27-33

March 6th, 2016

Page 1 of 2

THOUGHT: Do you think of Jesus as a convenient friend or as the absolute authority in your life?

What do your decisions, attitudes and actions say about this?

DISCUSSION POINT ONE: JESUS SETS UP THE SCENE.

Remember last week how we noted that Jesus checked things out at the Temple, then returned the next day and "cleaned house"?

Now note what He does one day later in Mark 11:27-33.

How does Mark 11:17-18 shed light on the tension that would have existed when He showed up.

How intentional, how calculated, were Jesus actions this day?

DISCUSSION POINT TWO: THE ATTITUDES JESUS WAS FACING.

Read Mark 2:5-11. What did Jesus make clear here (v.10)?

Look at Mark 3:22-30. What was the issue here?

In Mark 8:11-12, 10:2 and 11:18, what was the intent of the Jewish leadership? What was their ultimate purpose?

From where did they believe Jesus got His power? (Mark 3:22)

Look at how cunning their attack on Jesus was in Mark 11:27-28.

Then look at the way Jesus countered in vv 29-30, followed by their response in vv 31-32.

DISCUSSION POINT THREE: WHO IS IN CONTROL?

Discuss the utter, hands-down, confidence and control Jesus showed.

Compare Proverbs 26:24-26, and discuss how Jesus led these leaders to fall into their own trap.

We know that Jesus was planning to be tortured and executed for our sins, BUT, look how He controlled the timing!

What was the upcoming sacrifice and feast?

Think about how He made sure the events were going to fulfill prophecy!

• FURTHER THOUGHT AND MEDITATION:

Do you live out the belief that Jesus is the final authority in life?

If I think something is true, or OK, but the Word has a different perspective on that ... is it really acceptable to go my own way because "Jesus loves me, and I love Him"?

If the Word teaches me something that is uncomfortable, how do I deal with that?

Seriously can I pick and choose?

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Page 2 of 2

• PRAYER:

Pray for our individual relationships and our witness to those in our lives.

In what ways will my life influence them? How significant are my prayers for them?

Continue to uphold the Shelter Valley believers, and the GCC team that serves there.

Let's continue to pray for the Lord's love and power to be seen in Barangonan Island.

Pray for Eddie, as he grows in Christ and takes on greater responsibilities on Barangonan Island.