

# 03

JOHN 2:11-23

## GLORY ON DISPLAY



### THIS WEEK'S **focus**

Much of life is built around chasing glory: winning a championship game, crushing a challenging test, being liked by everyone, getting invited to that concert everyone wants to attend, getting “likes” and follows on social media. And yet, we often find this chase for glory to be soul-sucking. Even if we win the game, dominate the test, or get the likes, we soon learn that worldly glory doesn’t last long. Jesus’s ministry was built around glory, except that God’s glory is made of more substantial stuff than human glory. In our text today, we’ll see how Jesus revealed God’s glory first in a subtle way and then in a startling way—and how this glory drew people to rest from their own glory-chasing and believe in Him instead.



### CENTRAL **truth**

Jesus came to show God’s glory so that we might believe.



EXPLORE

# scripture

JOHN 2:11-23

## JOHN 2:11-12

**11** Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee. He revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him. **12** After this,

he went down to Capernaum, together with his mother, his brothers, and his disciples, and they stayed there only a few days.

## JOHN 2:13-16

**13** The Jewish Passover was near, and so Jesus went up to Jerusalem. **14** In the temple he found people selling oxen, sheep, and doves, and he also found the money changers sitting there. **15** After making a whip out of cords, he drove everyone out of

the temple with their sheep and oxen. He also poured out the money changers' coins and overturned the tables. **16** He told those who were selling doves, "Get these things out of here! Stop turning my Father's house into a marketplace!"

## JOHN 2:17-23

**17** And his disciples remembered that it is written: Zeal for your house will consume me. **18** So the Jews replied to him, "What sign will you show us for doing these things?" **19** Jesus answered, "Destroy this temple, and I will raise it up in three days." **20** Therefore the Jews said, "This temple took forty-six years to build, and will you raise it up in three days?" **21** But he was

speaking about the temple of his body. **22** So when he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the Scripture and the statement Jesus had made. **23** While he was in Jerusalem during the Passover Festival, many believed in his name when they saw the signs he was doing.

# DAILY devotions

MEMORIZE JOHN 2:19

## 7 ARROWS FOR BIBLE READING



What does this passage say?



What does this passage tell us about God?



What did this passage mean to its original audience?



How does this passage change the way I relate to people?



What does this passage tell us about humans?



How does this passage prompt me to pray?



What does this passage demand of me?

day 1

## JOHN 2:1-12

### DWELL

Jesus's first miracle was a surprisingly quiet affair, with only the servants, Jesus's mother, and Jesus's disciples seeming to know about it. Despite the fact that it went under the radar of most attending the wedding feast, it was a spectacular display of God's glory. Jesus's disciples began to understand that Jesus has the power to transform!



Jesus didn't merely turn the water into wine—He turned it into good wine. Why is this significant?



In what areas of your life can you invite Jesus to use His power to bring about radical change?

### MEMORIZE

Write out John 2:19 on a piece of paper, "taking a picture" of it with your eyes. Then, read the verse aloud five times. Finally, cover it up with your hand and try to say it without looking. Do this one more time before you go to bed tonight.

### PRAY

Thank God for how He displays His goodness by transforming His people to look more like Him! Invite Him to continue to do a transforming work in your life, and ask Him how you can partner with Him.

day 2

# JOHN 2:13-17

## DWELL

This narrative can feel like a sharp swerve that challenges what we know about Jesus. But when we consider who the money changers were and what they were doing, we see this isn't a plot twist within Jesus's character! In this scene, we watch as He fiercely defended the holiness of God's temple and advocated for the poor who were desiring to worship God. Jesus was being the way He always is: loving God, loving people, and boldly challenging sin.

↑ What does this story teach us that God hates? What does He love?

→ What are some unexpected ways that you could show love for God and others?

## MEMORIZE

Write down the first letter of each word of John 2:19 on a note card. At least five times today, see if you can say the verse just by looking at the letters.

## PRAY

Praise God for how He invites all to genuinely worship Him. Ask Him to help you love what He loves and hate what He hates.

day 3

# MATTHEW 21:12-13

## DWELL



What do you think the money changers cared about? Was Jesus right to call them thieves? Why?



Why do you think the headings in the Bible often call this event the “cleansing of the temple”?

In Matthew's account of the cleansing of the temple, Jesus quoted the prophet Isaiah (see Isa. 56:7), who spoke hundreds of years earlier about God's heart that all would worship Him. As Jesus demonstrated, this invitation is serious business, and those who stand in the way of the invitation will answer to Him. God's house was supposed to be holy and set apart for worship—not a place to make money! God's house was being treated like a Wal-Mart, and Jesus wasn't going to overlook it.

## MEMORIZE

Connect your memorization efforts to a common task, like brushing your teeth, washing your hair, or driving to school. As you complete that task each day, try to say John 2:19 from memory twice.

## PRAY

Ask God to show you if there are places in your life where you are mistreating something or someone He has made holy. Look up Psalm 139:23-24 and pray the verses out loud.

day 4

# ISAIAH 56:1-8

## DWELL



What kinds of gifts does God offer those who worry they'll be excluded from worshipping Him?



How does this passage encourage you?

Passages like this one, written about 700 years before Jesus was born, are the kinds of passages that the religious elite in Jesus's day would have studied and taught. So, when Jesus quoted Isaiah, it's likely those listening (and being chased out) would have recalled this very chapter. Isaiah is also known for being jam-packed with prophecies about the Messiah. Perhaps this is why the events at the temple prompted many to believe in Him!

## MEMORIZE

Have a friend or family member set a daily alarm. When the alarm goes off each day, ask them to reach out to you and ask you to recite as much of John 2:19 from memory as you can.

## PRAY

Thank God for His Word and all the fascinating ways the Old Testament points to Jesus. Ask Him to help you know and love His Word more!

day 5

# JOHN 2:18-25

## DWELL

After Jesus chased everyone out of the temple, the Jews demanded a sign. Jesus answered them in a way that is very Jesus: with memorable, layered words that made them think. Just like so many of the things Jesus taught and said, these words would make more sense later. We might sometimes wish God would just tell it plain—but then we'd miss out on all that deep pondering and the glorious "ah ha!" moment when it finally becomes clear.



What do you think it was like for the disciples to remember Jesus's words (see v. 19) after He was raised from the dead?



What connections can you make between the way people treated the temple and the way they treated Jesus's body?

## MEMORIZE

Write out John 2:19 somewhere creative—maybe use a dry erase marker on your bathroom mirror or chalk on the driveway. You could even write it in the dust on the back windshield of a friend's dirty car.

## PRAY

Scripture calls Jesus's body a temple (see v. 21), and each of our bodies becomes a temple when the Holy Spirit dwells in us (see 1 Cor. 6:19-20). Ask God to help you better understand this truth and to live it out.