
TABLE TALK

Authority Questioned

Prepare:

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As one person lights a candle, the family reads together: (based on Matthew 12:38-42)

C: No sign will be given except the sign of the prophet Jonah.

R: For just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish,

C: so will the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the heart.

R: Behold, something greater than Jonah is here.

Read: John 2:13-22 (ESV)

13 The Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. 14 In the temple he found those who were selling oxen and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting there. 15 And making a whip of cords, he drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and oxen. And he poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. 16 And he told those who sold the pigeons, "Take these things away; do not make my Father's house a house of trade." 17 His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me."

18 So the Jews said to him, "What sign do you show us for doing these things?" 19 Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." 20 The Jews then said, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will you raise it up in three days?" 21 But he was speaking about the temple of his body. 22 When therefore he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the Scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

Reflect:

During the cleansing of the temple, the Jewish leaders question Jesus's authority. In response, Jesus points to his coming resurrection as the ultimate sign of authority, not only for the Jewish leaders, but also for us today.

Take a moment to talk about what this passage (John 2:13-22) means for you as a family.

Now share with one another one thing you can do differently as a member of your family.

Pray:

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The head of the household prays:

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the clear sign of Your love for us, and Your Son's authority in Christ's resurrection. Help us to follow where Your Son leads. In Jesus's name, Amen.