

MATTHEW



STUDY GUIDE

Introduction:

Sunday's sermon centered around the idea of having our house cleaned. When the cleaner is coming, you need to first get the house ready to be cleaned. Let's lean into that metaphor for a minute, take a second and think:

What's the dirtiest mess you have ever had to clean up?

What did you have to do to get ready to clean up that mess?

Text: Matthew 21:12-17

We explored a lot of concepts during the sermon, here are a few questions to dig deeper into many of the ideas explored. Feel free to choose a couple that were most compelling for you, or spend time considering all the questions below:

- Jesus demonstrated an "anti-triumphalism" in his entry into Jerusalem. How does this challenge traditional notions of power and authority?
- How does Jesus' confrontation of economic and religious corruption relate to contemporary societal structures or values?
- How does the idea that the Temple should be a "house of prayer" apply to our own lives and the spaces we create for worship and community?
- If our physical bodies (and entire lives!) are now God's temple, how does this shift our focus toward embodied actions of justice and righteousness?
- How might CCC apply Jesus' model to live with integrity and justice in each of the areas discussed: business, politics, status, knowledge?

Which of these topics is most significant for you to try and apply in your own life and why?

Which of these seems most important for our church community to lean into?

YOUR MOVE

Are there any ways that you, your small group, or even our church might be inadvertently resisting the "house cleaning" of God?

One of our Priority Callings is to dwell in God's presence through *vulnerable worship*. How can you pursue this week a more honest kind of worship that embodies exactly what Jesus taught?