



KINGDOM

THE KING AND HIS

A STUDY IN MARK

Week 11: From Hangry to Holy

In Mark 11, Jesus challenges stereotypes about God, demonstrating that he is not just a passive, distant force but an emotional and engaged presence. As Jesus enters Jerusalem, he encounters a fig tree with leaves but no fruit, a symbol of spiritual emptiness. This sets the stage for his dramatic cleansing of the Temple, where he overturns tables and calls out religious leaders who appear faithful but hinder others from accessing God. Jesus' frustration highlights his desire for genuine spiritual growth—one that results in real and lasting fruit.

Discussion Questions:

1. Respond to this quote from A.W. Tozer: "What comes to our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us." What does he mean by this? Why do you agree or disagree with this way of self-assessment? What other qualities would you put in the "most important thing about us" category? How does Tozer's statement differ from the way culture evaluates a person?
2. Why do you believe many people use stereotypes to describe other people groups? How are some stereotypes helpful? Harmful? What stereotypes of God have you experienced or encountered? How have they shaped your relationship with him?
3. Why do you think Jesus responded so strongly to the lack of figs on the tree? In what ways can you, as a Jesus follower, ensure your faith is genuine and not just for show (all leaves, no fruit!)? How is this frustration connected to what was happening at the Temple? In what ways should his actions affect the way you live out your faith?
4. What injustice or issue in the world causes a "Popeye Moment" and makes you say, "That's all I can stand, I can't stand no more"? Should every follower of Jesus have a "holy discontent"? Why or why not? How can you take action in a way that reflects God's heart? What are the ways Christians (intentionally or unintentionally) make it harder for others to connect with God? What steps can you take to remove those barriers?