

## **LIFEGROUP NOTES: JOHN 2:13-22**

*As ever, please use (or discard!) these ideas as is most suitable for your group. Don't feel you have to use everything.*

### **Introduction**

1. What things make you very angry?

### **Read John 2:13-22 and discuss:**

1. This is a striking passage, and one that challenges our common perception of Jesus. What is your first reaction on reading this story? Why?
2. What was taking place at the temple? Why did this make Jesus' angry? Notice that Jesus spoke of the temple as *"My Father's house"* (John 2:16). How might this help us understand the strength of His response to what He saw?
3. Have you ever been angered because God was being dishonoured or disobeyed? When? With what result?
4. The temple officials naturally asked Jesus for His credentials (v.18). How did Jesus respond (vv.19-21)? How does Jesus' resurrection establish that He is indeed our Lord and Judge? Compare Jn 20:27-28; Mt 28:16-20; Acts 17:30-31; Romans 1:4 (and many others!).
5. What was Jesus indicating when He used temple language to speak of His body? (Think about what the purpose of the temple was ... and then compare verses such as John 1:14; 1:51; 14:9-10). In particular, how does Jesus' death and resurrection make it possible for God and sinful people to live together?
6. How does seeing Jesus as an offended Judge in vv.14-16 increase your wonder at His love when He is revealed as our self-sacrificing Saviour in vv.19-21?
7. Reflect on our coffee-time question: *In the past week (or today!), what wrong attitudes or actions resulted from forgetting EITHER that Jesus is our Judge OR that Jesus is our Saviour?* How would your life be different this week if you remember both these truths?

### **In Conclusion**

- Remember that the aim of John's gospel is "that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His name" (20:31). How has this passage added to your understanding of who Jesus is and what He came to do? Pray in the light of this.

*Eddie Larkman, February 2018*