

Remember Whose House You're In!

Based on the command of Christ #35 – “Be a House of Prayer”

John 2:14-16 (ESV)

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.”

Matthew 21:12-13 (ESV)

12 And Jesus entered the temple and drove out all who sold and bought in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money-changers and the seats of those who sold pigeons.

13 He said to them, “It is written, ‘My house shall be called a house of prayer,’ but you make it a den of robbers.”

“you make” = (poy-eh'-o) the command seems to center on what this people were making God's house into.

First... Jesus was angry because they had turned the Temple into just a business!

Second... Jesus was angry because commerce was being done in a way where the people were being “ripped off” in the process!

Third... Jesus was angry because they turned the Temple into a den of robbers!

A “den of robbers” is not where robbery takes place, but where the robbers live.

Fourth... Jesus was angry because they completely forgot the purpose of the temple was to provide a place where people could find God!

Mk. 11:17 (ESV) - And he was teaching them and saying to them, "Is it not written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer FOR ALL THE NATIONS'? But you have made it a den of robbers."

Is. 56:11 (ESV) - The dogs have a mighty appetite; they never have enough. But they are shepherds who have no understanding; they have all turned to their own way, each to his own gain, one and all.

Acts 4:31 (ESV) - And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness.

1. Pray in accordance with God's will!

We must desire God's will in our lives more than our own will!

2. Pray in faith based on God's Word!

The only way that you can know the will of God is through knowing the Word of God!

When Christian's pray in Jesus' name based upon God's Word, we can be absolutely confident that our prayers will be answered!

3. Pray with a Forgiving Spirit!

Mt. 6:12-13 (ESV)

12 and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

13 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Mt. 6:14-15 (ESV)

14 For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you,

15 but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

Mk. 11:25 (ESV) - "And whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone, so that your Father also who is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses."

1 Peter 3:7 (ESV) - Likewise, husbands, live with your wives in an understanding way, showing honor to the woman as the weaker vessel, since they are heirs with you of the grace of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered.

Eph. 4:26-27 (ESV)

26 Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger,
27 and give no opportunity to the devil.

Vs. 27 KJV - Neither give place to the devil.

Temple = (hee-er-on') - a sacred place in a public setting, the entire precincts

House = (oy'-kos) - a dwelling; by implication a family

Matthew 21:13 (ESV) - He said to them, "It is written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer,' but you make it a DEN of robbers."

Den = (spay'-lah-yon) - a cavern; a hiding-place, where predatory animals dwell

1 Cor. 6:19-20 (ESV)

19 Or do you not know that your body is a TEMPLE of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own,
20 for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

2 Cor. 6:16-18 (ESV)

16 What agreement has the TEMPLE of God with idols? For we are the TEMPLE of the living God; as God said, "I will make my dwelling among them and walk among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

17 Therefore go out from their midst, and be separate from them, says the Lord, and touch no unclean thing; then I will welcome you,
18 and I will be a father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to me, says the Lord Almighty."

Temple = (nah-os') which also means "a dwelling place".

It's not only how we act in a Church building...

But how we act AS His Church, His house, His dwelling place, His family ALL the time!

ALWAYS REMEMBER WHOSE HOUSE YOU'RE IN!!!

The owner is coming back to check on His property!

What will He find?