

March 27 - Week 13 – Questions to Consider
Matthew 21 ~ Matthew 22 ~ Mark 11 ~ Mark 12 ~ Luke 20

Fun Small Group Warm Up Question:

What is your favorite Easter activity or childhood memory?

1. What do you think it would've been like to be part of the crowd when Jesus enters Jerusalem triumphantly? (Matthew 21:8–11)
2. What do you think is so significant about Jesus beginning (John 2:13-17) & finishing (Matthew 21:12–13) His ministry years by cleansing the Temple?
3. What do you think “whatever you ask in prayer, you will receive, if you have faith” means? (The Cursing of the Fig Tree - Matt 21:21–22) What does a faithful prayer sound like?
4. Why do you think so many religious leaders (Pharisees, Scribes, Sadducees) challenged Jesus' authority then? (Jesus in the Temple - Matthew 21:23) Why do people resist His authority today? When are we tempted to resist Jesus' authority?
5. What did God teach you from the Parable of the Two Sons (Matthew 21:28–32)?
6. Why does Jesus warn in so many ways about Hell? (Matthew 21:41)
7. How do we avoid being wrong? (Matthew 22:29)
8. How does Jesus summarize the 10 commandments and the whole Bible (Matthew 22:37-39)? How does Satan, the world, and our own flesh make such love so hard?
9. Who are the people in your life that are the toughest to love? How can we love God and others better?
10. How does the warning of the scribes apply to us today? (Luke 20:46–47 “Beware of the scribes...”)
11. Why is giving \$ to God such a touchy subject? Do you think our giving to God can be a good measure of our spiritual maturity? Why or why not? Mark 12:42, 44 “a poor widow came and put in two small copper coins ... everything she had, all she had to live on”

Authority Issues:
Consider Responses to Jesus' Authority

11 Sinful Responses to Jesus' Authority

1. D _____

The Cursing of the Fig Tree - Matthew 21:21–22

2. Arrogant Questioning

Jesus in the Temple - Matthew 21:23

3. Fake Obedience - The Second Son

The Parable of the Two Sons - Matthew 21:28–30

4. D _____

The Parable of the Two Sons - Matthew 21:31–32

5. Jealousy

Jesus Cleansing the Temple - Mark 11:18

6. Plotting & Planning

Matthew 21:45–46

7. Outright R _____

The Parable of the Tenants - Matthew 21:38–39

8. Disobey, Ignore, Prioritize Self

The Parable of the Wedding Feast - Matthew 22:3, 5-6

9. Wrong Opinions

Matthew 22:29 “But Jesus answered them, ‘You are wrong, because you know neither the Scriptures nor the power of God.’”

10. S _____ Instead of Submitting

Matthew 22:46 “And no one was able to answer him a word, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.”

11. Proudful Self Seeking

Luke 20:46–47 “Beware of the scribes...”

Jesus' Warns Us About His Authority

Matthew 21:12–13 “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.”

11 Right Responses to Jesus' Authority

1. Curiosity

The Triumphal Entry - Matthew 21:10–11 “the whole city was stirred up, saying, ‘Who is this?’”

2. S_____

Matthew 21:14 “And the blind and the lame came to him”

3. Learning, Trusting, Following

Matthew 21:20 “When the disciples saw it, they marveled”

4. Obeying Slowly

Matthew 21:28–29 “afterward he changed his mind and went.”

5. Obeying I_____

Matthew 21:6 “The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed”

6. Worshipping & Praising

Matt 21:9 “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”

7. Astonished

Matthew 22:33 “when the crowd heard it, they were astonished at his teaching.”

8. Loving God

Matthew 22:37 “love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.”

9. Loving Others

Matthew 22:39 “love your neighbor as yourself.”

Human Authority Issues (Romans 13:1–2)

What authorities has Jesus put you under?

What authority has Jesus entrusted to you?

- In Marriage, Parenting, Workplace, School, Church, Government

10. Selfless S_____

Mark 12:42, 44 “a poor widow came and put in two small copper coins ... everything she had, all she had to live on”

11. Going & Telling

Matthew 28:18–20 “And Jesus came and said to them, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. [19] Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, [20] teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.’” (ESV)

Authority Issues - 3 Next Steps

1. C_____.

Where have you sinned against Jesus' authority?

Where have you sinned against the authorities Jesus placed over you?

Where have you sinned in the authority Jesus has given you?

2. S_____ Firm.

How is Satan tempting you now against Jesus' authority?

How is Satan tempting you now against the authorities Jesus placed over you?

How is Satan tempting you now in the authority Jesus has given you?

3. Press F_____.

What is God showing you about Jesus' authority?

What is God showing you about the authorities Jesus placed over you?

What is God showing you about the authority Jesus has given you?

This Next Week's New Testament Reading Plan:

Week 14: Matthew 23 & 24 ~ Mark 13 ~ Luke 21 ~ John 12

- **Hope & Purpose in Jesus:** www.southfork.church/jesus
- **Daily Verse by Text Message:** remind.com/join/sfbcdevo
- **Our Plan:** www.southfork.church/2022-bible-reading-plan

Authority Issues: Consider Responses to Jesus' Authority

11 Sinful Responses to Jesus' Authority

1. Doubt

The Cursing of the Fig Tree - Matthew 21:21–22 “And Jesus answered them, ‘Truly, I say to you, if you have faith and do not doubt, you will not only do what has been done to the fig tree, but even if you say to this mountain, ‘Be taken up and thrown into the sea,’ it will happen. [22] And whatever you ask in prayer, you will receive, if you have faith.”

2. Arrogant Questioning

Jesus in the Temple - Matthew 21:23 “And when he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, ‘By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?’”

3. Fake Obedience - The Second Son

The Parable of the Two Sons - Matthew 21:28–30 “What do you think? A man had two sons. And he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ [29] And he answered, ‘I will not,’ but afterward he changed his mind and went. [30] And he went to the other son and said the same. And he answered, ‘I go, sir,’ but did not go.”

4. Disbelief

The Parable of the Two Sons - Matthew 21:31–32 “Which of the two did the will of his father?’ They said, ‘The first.’ Jesus said to them, ‘Truly, I say to you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes go into the kingdom of God before you. [32] For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him. And even when you saw it, you did not afterward change your minds and believe him.”

5. Jealousy

Jesus Cleansing the Temple - Mark 11:18 “And the chief priests and the scribes heard it and were seeking a way to destroy him, for they feared him, because all the crowd was astonished at his teaching.”

6. Plotting & Planning

Matthew 21:45–46 “When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they perceived that he was speaking about them. And although they were seeking to arrest him, they feared the crowds, because they held him to be a prophet.”

7. Outright Rebellion

The Parable of the Tenants - Matthew 21:38–39 “But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.’ [39] And they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him.”

8. Disobey, Ignore, Prioritize Self

The Parable of the Wedding Feast - Matthew 22:3, 5–6 “sent his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding feast, but they would not come. ...But they paid no attention and went off, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them.”

9. Wrong Opinions

Matthew 22:29 “But Jesus answered them, ‘You are wrong, because you know neither the Scriptures nor the power of God.’”

10. Silent Instead of Submitting

Matthew 22:46 “And no one was able to answer him a word, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.”

11. Proudful Self Seeking

Luke 20:46–47 “Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and love greetings in the marketplaces and the best seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at feasts, [47] who devour widows’ houses and for a pretense make long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation.” (ESV)

Jesus’ Warns Us About His Authority

Matthew 21:12–13 “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.’”

11 Right Responses to Jesus’ Authority

1. Curiosity

The Triumphal Entry - Matthew 21:10–11 “And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, ‘Who is this?’ [11] And the crowds said, ‘This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee.’”

2. Seeking

Matthew 21:14 “And the blind and the lame came to him in the temple, and he healed them.”

3. Learning, Trusting, Following

Matthew 21:20 “When the disciples saw it, they marveled, saying, ‘How did the fig tree wither at once?’”

4. Obeying Slowly

Matthew 21:28–29 “What do you think? A man had two sons. And he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ [29] And he answered, ‘I will not,’ but afterward he changed his mind and went.”

5. Obeying Immediately

Matthew 21:6 “The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them.”

6. Worshipping & Praising

Matthew 21:9 “And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, ‘Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!’”

7. Astonished

Matthew 22:33 “when the crowd heard it, they were astonished at his teaching.”

8. Loving God

Matthew 22:37 “And he said to him, ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’”

9. Loving Others

Matthew 22:39 “And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”

Human Authority Issues (Romans 13:1–2)

Romans 13:1–2 “Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. [2] Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment.”

What authorities has Jesus put you under?

What authority has Jesus entrusted to you?

- **In Marriage**
- **In Parenting**
- **In Workplaces**
- **In Schools**
- **In Church**
- **In Government**

10. Selfless Sacrifice

Mark 12:42, 44 “And a poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which make a penny. ... everything she had, all she had to live on”

11. Going & Telling

Matthew 28:18–20 “And Jesus came and said to them, ‘All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. [19] Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, [20] teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.’” (ESV)

Authority Issues - 3 Next Steps

1. Confess.

Where have you sinned against Jesus’ authority?

Where have you sinned against the authorities Jesus placed over you?

Where have you sinned in the authority Jesus has given you?

2. Stand Firm.

How is Satan tempting you now against Jesus’ authority?

How is Satan tempting you now against the authorities Jesus placed over you?

How is Satan tempting you now in the authority Jesus has given you?

3. Press Forward.

What is God showing you about Jesus’ authority?

What is God showing you about the authorities Jesus placed over you?

What is God showing you about the authority Jesus has given you?