Together with Jesus

Week 9 – Matthew 21 and 22 – Into Jerusalem

Matthew 21:1-11	**Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem** Jesus enters into Jerusalem with fanfare that makes sure He is noticed, fulfilling messianic prophecies about Himself. • **Why do you suppose the people do what they do with the fanfare? Instinct? A statement?**
Matthew 21:12-17	**Cleansing the Temple** In His only recorded truly violent act, Jesus clears the temple of those who are making trade in it. • **Why do you suppose Jesus cares so much about a Temple that He is replacing with Himself?**
Matthew 21:18-27	**Cursing the Fig Tree** Jesus reenters Jerusalem after spending the night in Bethany. On the trip back, He foreshadows His visit to Jerusalem by cursing the fig tree and answering a challenge presented to Him. • **How do you suppose the fig tree is a symbol of Jerusalem?**
Matthew 21:28-22:14	**Three Parables about Jerusalem** Matthew records three parables in a row from Jesus, each differing slightly, but speaking directly to the issue of the religious hierarchy in Jerusalem. • **How do each of these parables differ in their message? How are they similar?**
Matthew 22:15-33	**Testing Jesus** Two rival groups arrive to test Jesus in succession. Jesus turns each group back having mystified them instead of it going the other way around. • **What do you suppose the Pharisees or Sadducees had planned for Jesus if they stumped Him?** *Next page*

Matthew 22:34-46   Final Rebuttals
The Pharisees rebound after the failure of the Sadducees, but Jesus shuts them down, asking a question of His own that stops the questioning.

- **Why do you suppose this is the point that makes the Pharisees give up?**

Red Letter Challenge this week – Worship

This week, take Jesus' words from Luke 4:8, "Worship the LORD, your God" to heart. We worship with how we spend our time, express our emotions, what we sing along to, and what we watch. This week, make a point to set aside new or special time to worship God listening to Christian music or doing something else.