## **Look Again**

If Jesus came to your church, what would you say? What would you do?

Read Matthew 21:1-46.

- 1. Christ's entry into Jerusalem created so much excitement because:
  - A. Everyone loves a parade.
  - B. Many were already primed to make Jesus their king.
  - C. It seemed like the golden opportunity to throw out the Romans.
  - D. It fulfilled Old Testament prophecy for the Messiah (Zechariah 9:9).
  - E. Jesus appealed to the masses, but not to their leaders.
  - F. It was Passover time, so the crowd was already huge.
  - G. Once it started, it snowballed and couldn't be stopped.
  - H. This was the first time Jesus didn't shun the crowd's adoration.
  - I. Other.
- 2. Why did Jesus cleanse the temple?
  - A. He did it to start His ministry (John 2) and it needed cleansing again.
  - B. The temple was dirty.
  - C. The religious leaders were ripping off people.
  - D. Jesus was furious.
  - E. The temple practices excluded more people than they included.
  - F. To give access to those left out—the blind, the lame, and children.
  - G. It's what Jesus does.
  - H. To challenge the religious establishment.
  - I. Other.
- 3. Why did Jesus curse the fig tree?
  - A. When you're hungry, you do extreme things.
  - B. The fig tree was hypocritical—leaves on a fig tree means it has fruit.
  - C. The fig tree symbolized God's people—hypocrites.
  - D. To show the disciples supernatural power.
  - E. To train His disciples in tree thinning.
  - F. To train His disciples how to put faith into action.
  - G. Being fruitful matters to Jesus.
  - H. I don't think this story really happened.
  - I. Other.

- 4. What caused such conflict between Jesus and the religious leaders?
  - A. Jesus made the religious leaders look weak.
  - B. Jesus made the religious leaders look foolish.
  - C. Jesus exposed the hypocrisy of the religious leaders.
  - D. Jesus messed up the sales at the temple at peak season—Passover.
  - E. It was all about power.
  - F. It was all about authority.
  - G. Jesus was the cousin of John the Baptist—another agitator.
  - H. Jesus upset everything the religious leaders had in place.
  - I. Other.
- 5. What lesson(s) do you draw from the story of the two sons?
  - A. Both were hypocrites—neither son did what he said he would do.
  - B. The father hadn't trained his sons very well.
  - C. The sons lacked respect for their father.
  - D. Those who say the right thing don't necessarily do the right thing.
  - E. Those who say the wrong thing don't necessarily do the wrong thing.
  - F. The Jewish leaders incriminated themselves without realizing it.
  - G. Everyone stands in need of repentance.
  - H. Other.
- 6. What made the story of the evil farmers so impactful?
  - A. Jesus was a great storyteller.
  - B. The story seems so exceptional and extreme.
  - C. Some who listened had actually done what Jesus described.
  - D. The religious leaders pronounced judgment on the evil farmers.
  - E. The religious leaders didn't even realize the story was about them.
  - F. The punchline was a gut punch.
  - G. The interpretation showed the bad were in, and the good were out.
  - H. Other.
- 7. What upsets you about hypocrites—those who say one thing but do something else?
- 8. When are you most likely to be hypocritical—not do what you say, or not say what you do?