Jesus Cleans House

At the beginning and again at the end of His ministry (Mark 11:15-18) Jesus drove the corrupt, noisy merchants from the court of the gentiles within the temple precincts. This constituted a public demonstration of His mission to purify Israel and bring the nation back to God (Malachi 3:1-3). The leaders ask for a sign—disregarding the miracles that He performed (v. 23)—so Jesus offers them the ultimate sign of His resurrection (see also Matthew 12:38-42). The body of Jesus is the perfectly holy temple of God, for all the fullness of the Godhead dwells in Him (Colossians 2:9). The church is a temple where God dwells (1 Corinthians 3:16; Ephesians 2:19-22). So, too, is the individual believer.

**1 Corinthians 6:9-11, 15-20; 2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1**

**God wants to dwell in a clean house.**

**1. What has *Jesus done* to clean our houses?**

A. He has shed His *blood* (1 Co 6:11)

B. He has sent His *Spirit* (1Co 6:11)

C. He has given His *promises* (2 Co 7:1)

**2. What must *we do* to clean our houses?**

A. Flee sexual *immorality* (1 Co 6:18, 20)

B. Separate ourselves from the *world* (2 Co 6:17)

C. Cleanse ourselves from *defilement* (2 Co 7:1)

D. Pursue *holiness* (2 Co 7:1)

**Practical directions for cleaning our houses**

A. Cling to what *Jesus has done*

B. Get up when *you fall* (Proverbs 24:16)

C. Make no *provision* for the flesh (Romans 13:14)

**For Private Meditation or Family Discussion**

1. How did the Lord speak to you through the message? Did He put His finger on any habits or attitudes that you need to change? Did He encourage you regarding some difficulty, move you to undertake some new challenge, or open your heart to some truth you hadn’t seen before?

2. How do you view the pursuit of holiness?

* I’m doomed to fail.
* This is for super-spiritual Christians, not for me.
* I can do this by the power of Christ, so when I fall, I will get up again.

3. Are there specific places, persons, or pursuits from which you need to separate yourself? Perhaps—

* They lessen your love for Christ
* They make you feel unclean
* They take too much time and energy
* They encourage unclean thoughts or actions
* You would feel uncomfortable taking Christ there
* You feel a need to justify yourself for your involvement