

STUDY ON THE ZEAL OF THE FATHER'S HOUSE (John 2:13-25)

Journey Together 2026 Weekly Sermon Series

Warming Up... 1. What's the last thing you bought for yourself? Why? 2. OR How often do you buy the things you've been advertised online? What are some of those items you keep seeing and you end up purchasing?	Aims & Objectives of today's session: To leave knowing that it's fundamentally a heart issue—Jesus wants the temple and our hearts to be right. Jesus knows the heart of all.
Read John 2:13-22 1. What were the things that were being sold or done in the temple courts? What do you think was the purpose of these? 2. How do you think Jesus felt? Why? What did he say? What did he do? 3. Explain the dialogue between the Jews and Jesus in v18-20. 4. Why do you think the author John broke the “third-wall” in v17 and 21-22? Why is this important to note? 5. What does v17 mean when it mentions “zeal” and “consume”? 6. What does this passage reveal about our hearts? 7. Hindsight realisation is a common thing, we realise things afterwards but not at the time. Have you had any hindsight realisations about Jesus? Please share Read John 2:23-25 8. When it comes to signs and miracles of Jesus, why do you think it was normal for the people to see and believe? Would you? Why? 9. What does V24-25 say about Jesus? Why is this so? Is this valid? Why or why not? 10. This ending is strategically placed after Jesus cleanses the temple. Why do you think this is so? What does it say about hearts? How does it relate to Him cleansing the temple courts?	Side Note: We are God's temple, and God desires mercy not sacrifice, and a deep connection with us (see Hosea 6:6). Jesus' zeal for the temple reflects his deep commitment to the purity and sanctity of worship. The word “consume” indicates a profound passion and dedication that leads to personal cost of sacrifice, which eventually happened for Jesus. It's an all-encompassing fervour, and one where Jesus' mission to restore true worship and relationship with God—where he clears out the old temple sacrifices, and is the new covenant sacrifice. There is no coincidence that v23-25 ends that way after the cleansing of the temple. It reveals that it really is a heart-issue. He cleanses the corrupted transactional worship, and he really knows the heart of every man: Jesus comes to challenge our faith, it can be shallow, but desires transformation of the heart.
Application 11. How do you personally know Jesus sees the heart of everyone? 12. How do you personally know, Jesus loves us from this passage? Spend some time in pairs or trios, sharing in response to this question: If Jesus walked into your temple, your heart, what would he see? And pray for each other, surrendering these items to the cross.	Prayer & Reflection this week Read and reflect on Romans 12:1-2. Consider how you can be a living sacrifice to God this week. Meditate on these verses as you go about your days.
	Ending with prayer Father, you desire mercy not sacrifices and burnt offerings. May I connect deeply with You and be transformed by Your Spirit, may I be a living sacrifice for You. Amen.