

## John 2.13-22

### Watch and chat

Click to watch [Clearing the Temple](#)

Here are some questions to talk about:

- How can we show respect for the church?
- Why is it a special place?
- What makes you angry?
- What's the difference between having a tantrum and getting angry for appropriate reasons? (This might be a challenging question for younger groups.)

### Reflection

Do you have any special items that are meaningful to you? Maybe a favourite toy, or a blanket or piece of clothing... well, I happen to love reading, and some of my favourite things are important books! Imagine how you would feel if someone damaged your toy, blanket or clothing?

Today, we learn about a time when Jesus went into the temple, into God's house, and He discovered that people were using the temple for the wrong reason. They had turned it into a marketplace, and they were selling things. You see, people needed animals to sacrifice to god, but the sellers were charging crazy high prices for the animals, and forcing the poor people to pay the high prices just so they could worship. That doesn't sound like what should be going on in a church, does it? Jesus sure didn't think so. He got so upset that He made a whip out of some rope, and He went into the table and turned the tables over!

We all make mistakes still, but we know Jesus promises to take care of that. When we focus our lives on loving and serving God, we are doing what He has made us for, He helps us every time.

### Prayer

(Have children repeat each line)

Dear God,  
Thank you for making us. And for creating us to worship you  
Please help us focus on living for you. And using the church  
and our lives for the right purposes.  
Thank you for your love We love you, God! In Jesus's name,  
Amen!

### Game

**Flying animals...** Jesus overturned tables and sent the animal cages flying. Use stuffed animals and baskets to have an animal tossing contest. Encourage students to launch the stuffed animals from different sides of the room, attempting to land them in the baskets.



### Songs

[The Church is](#)

[I love my church](#)

[This little light of mine](#)

### Activities

