**Pastor Demetric Felton Sr. June 21, 2020**

**Jesus Had To Do Something**

Mark 11:15-19

**Key Truth:** Jesus Christ is committed to removing anything that stands in the way of His church living out its mission.

**Why Is Jesus So Angry?**

1. Because His temple is being used as a place of commerce;

 rather than, a place of prayer, compassion, and communion

 for all ethnicities. **Isaiah 56:7-12**

2. Because the religious leaders of the day didn’t value the lives

 of the Gentiles.

**What’s The Implications For The Church Today?**

1. Jesus cleansed the temple for not living up to its mission and

 purpose. **Matthew 21:12-17**

 A. Jesus is cleansing His church so that we can live out His

 Kingdom Agenda.

 B. By cleansing the temple, Jesus was demonstrating to the

 Gentiles that their lives mattered to God.

 C. It’s not enough to worship in proximity to one another, we

 must be in solidarity with one another.

2. We must resist the call from some to just “preach Jesus” and

 everything will be ok.

 A. It’s not enough to transform hearts, we must also

 transform minds and change laws in this country that

 reflect the heart of Jesus Christ. **Luke 3:10-14**

 B. We must dismantle the system that keeps perpetuating

 injustice.

3. The church should be at the forefront of racial reconciliation

 because it is consistent and realized in the Gospel of Jesus.

**Taking It Beyond The Walls**: Allow Jesus to drive out the sin of racism in our hearts, homes, and churches. Stand for truth, righteousness, and justice no matter the cost.

**Connection Group Homework**

Looking back at your notes, was there anything in particular that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

Why is it that sins like abortion and homosexuality are applauded when preached in most “conservative” churches but topics like racism in America is frowned upon?

Read Acts 1:6-8: What was the early church empowered and commissioned to do? How does racism stand in opposition to that mission?

Read Mark 11:12-14: What did Jesus expect when He approached the fig tree? Were Jesus’ expectations fair? Why or why not?

Did the tree deserve to be cursed? Why or why not?

What did the temple and the fig tree have in common?

What do you think went through the minds of the disciples when Jesus cursed the tree? Why would Jesus use His authority in this way?

Read Isaiah 56:6-8 and Jeremiah 7:11-15: How did Isaiah and Jeremiah describe the temple’s purpose and its potential problems? How had the temple been corrupted in Jesus day?