

The Book of Mark

Lessons From A Fig Tree

The Passage:

Mark 11:12-25

The Questions:

If you are on the road and you get hungry where do you like to stop to eat? Have you ever eaten a fresh fig? Do you like figs?

What reasons might Jesus have had for responding to the tree like he did?

What motivations did Jesus have for disrupting commerce in the temple? What can we learn from the Scripture passages he refers to?

How did the chief priests and the scribes respond to Jesus actions? What were they afraid of?

In what ways are the fig tree and the temple similar? What would happen to the temple 40 years later?

What does Jesus say here about the role of faith/belief in prayer? How should Christians understand and respond to "unanswered" prayers? What things can hinder our prayers?

How does Jesus' teaching about prayer fit in with the rest of our passage today?