

Eastridge Church
Sermon Study Questions

Series - Mark: The Untold Story of Jesus

Week 36: The Unanswered Question

Passage: Mark 11:27-33



Conversation Starter:

Share a historical moment that left an impact on you. Why was it so impactful?

Re-read Mark 11:27-33

The primary thrust of today's passage centers around authority. For many in our culture today, being under someone's authority is a negative thing. *When you hear the word "authority" what comes to mind? What are some ways you have seen or experienced good and bad authority? In your own words, why were the temple leaders asking Jesus about His authority?*

Jesus answers the question of the temple leaders by asking them a question. As Pastor Dwain pointed out, it seems like it would have been much more efficient for Jesus to display His full authority and leave no question in the minds of the temple leaders. *What does it say about the temple leaders that they were unwilling to answer the question that Jesus put to them? What was their primary concern? What does it say about Jesus that He does not use His authority to coerce people to follow Him? Why do you think Jesus would choose to do it this way?*

The biggest challenge for followers of Jesus is to live in a way that displays that Jesus has complete authority in our lives and in the world. **Read 2 Corinthians 5:16-21 and Romans 12:14-19** With these passages in your mind answer the following two questions. *What is our role as Christ followers in the world around us? How do we live in a way that displays that Jesus is in complete authority?*

Finally, spend the last moments of your time together praying through the following points:

- *Pray prayers of submission to God's authority*
- *Ask for a heart of reconciliation*
- *Respond to reconciling action*
- *Be open to being changed*

Resources to dig deeper:

[*The Role of the Church in Facing the Nation's Chief Moral Dilemma*](#), sermon by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.