

## Connecting

Who's the most famous person you've ever seen or met in person?

What's a memorable "showdown" scene from a movie you have seen?

Have you ever had a coach, teacher, or supervisor help you improve by pointing out a weakness or blind spot?

## Understanding

Read Mark 11:12-21. What is Jesus' issue with the merchants in the temple? How does the story of the fig tree, which is told before *and* after the events in the temple, help you understand the incident with the merchants?

Read Mark 12:1-12. What do you think this illustration conveys? How do the religious leaders respond?

Read Mark 12:38-44. How do the actions of this widow contrast with those of the religious leaders?

## Living

Do you lean toward achieving justice or carrying out acts of mercy?

Sometimes we think of Jesus solely as a loving savior or solely as a disruptor? Why is it important to keep these two aspects of Jesus together?

If you were having a conversation with Jesus, what topic would you want Jesus to avoid?

Has there ever been a time in your past when Jesus disrupted your attitudes or behaviors? What was that like? What did you learn?

Next Week: Mark 12:13-34