

BYOJ – “Strength and Anger”

May 6-7, 2017

Community:

1. With summer right around the corner, do you have any special plans or vacation ideas? If so, what are they?
2. What has been your most memorable moment from this “BYOJ” series, and why?

Core:

1. When you describe or hear Jesus being described with words like *mercy, grace, love, and acceptance*, what other words come to mind? If you were to describe Jesus, what words would you use?
2. What are your thoughts when you hear Jesus being described with words like *strength, anger, leverage, and wrath*? Do these characteristics line up with the Jesus you know?
3. **Read Matthew 4:1-4.** What can this passage teach us about the character of Jesus? Why do you think Jesus refused to leverage His power to turn the stones into bread?
4. **Read John 2:6-10.** What stands out to you in this story? Why do you think Jesus chose this to be His first, public miracle?
5. **Read John 8:1-11.** What can this story teach us about Jesus? Instead of crushing or condemning the woman, what did Jesus do? How did He use His power to protect her?
6. **Read John 2:13-17.** What stands out to you about Jesus in this story? How did Jesus demonstrate anger without sinning? What can we learn from Jesus about anger?
7. Ask yourself this, what is it that you’re looking for in Jesus—that you can believe in, trust, and follow? Over the course of this series, have you discovered that Jesus? Does what you’ve discovered about Jesus (in the Bible) line up with the version of Jesus you’ve had in your head? If not, what’s different?

Challenge:

Jim said this weekend, “*Sovereign God has entrusted each one of us with a part of His Kingdom.*” With that in mind, take some time this week and write down what God has placed in your Kingdom like; the people in your life, your job, your finances, your gifts and abilities, etc. Then, ask yourself, “*What happens if I leverage everything I’ve been given, everything I’ve accomplished, or accumulated to help others with their problems that are within your ability to assist?*” Jesus leveraged everything he had (including His strength and anger) to provide and protect for the people that needed it most and we are meant to learn from Him and do the same. Pray over the list you make and ask God to help you leverage the things in your life—like Jesus did.