

THE PASTOR'S ESSENTIALS®

OUR LIVES IN THE BIBLE - THE BIBLE IN OUR LIVES

¹³ "ENTER THROUGH THE NARROW GATE. FOR WIDE IS THE GATE AND BROAD IS THE ROAD THAT LEADS TO DESTRUCTION, AND MANY ENTER THROUGH IT. ¹⁴ BUT SMALL IS THE GATE AND NARROW THE ROAD THAT LEADS TO LIFE, AND ONLY A FEW FIND IT.
MATTHEW 7:13-14

es-sen-tials (ĭ-sĕn'shəlz) – *noun* – those things that are necessary and basic to life. In biochemistry essentials are substances that are required for normal functioning but cannot be synthesized by the body and therefore must be included in the diet. Essentials are those things that are fundamental to the spiritual health of the professing Christian.

The Gospel of Mark A BIBLE STUDY

SESSION ELEVEN

Mark 11:1 – 11:33

Questions for Session Eleven

1. What is the special significance behind Jesus' sending two disciples into the village and instructing them to take a colt, which no one had ridden? Explain your thoughts.
2. How had Jesus prepared the people from whom they would request the colt? What was their reaction to the disciples? What would indicate a sense of urgency or some immediacy to the situation when they returned with the colt?
3. What was the significance of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem? How did the people greet him? Be specific. Where did Jesus go first, and why did he go there?

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4. Explain Jesus' reaction when he saw the fig tree, which was in leaf, but not producing figs. Was it supposed to be bearing figs out of season? Explain.

5. When the entourage finally came back into Jerusalem the next morning Jesus took immediate action. What observations do you think he had made the night before when they had come to the temple upon arriving in the city?

6. What was Jesus' reaction to the corruption within the temple? How did the early Church become corrupt, and what happened as a result? Compare and/or contrast your ideas to the local church today.

7. Why did Jesus curse the fig tree? What did that have to do with faith in God, v. 22? What does this lesson teach about our prayer lives and the forgiveness of our sins? Explain your thoughts in some detail.

8. Why did (1) *the chief priests*, (2) *the teachers of the law*, and (3) *the elders* challenge Jesus' authority? How did the activity of John's baptism play into this teaching of Jesus regarding his authority?

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