

**Scripture Passage:** Luke 19:41-48

**Story Point:** As Jesus approaches Jerusalem, he weeps because of his deep sorrow over the people's rejection of him. He prophesies the destruction of the city due to the people's unbelief. Later, we see Jesus driving out those people selling things in the temple and highlighting the significance of the temple as a house of prayer (or a place to meet God).

**Picture It:** Imagine you are a farmer with a flock of sheep. One day, you notice that the gate to the sheep pen is open, and the sheep have escaped. What would you do if you saw the sheep going into your house through an open door? Wouldn't you want to run to your house to chase the sheep out and back into the pen where they belong?

That is what Jesus had to do with the money-changers and animal sellers who set up shop in the temple. The temple in Jerusalem wasn't built as a place to sell sheep. It had another purpose: It was God's house where people came to worship him.

(taken from *Old Story New* by Marty Machowski)

**Discussion Questions:**

- What can Jesus' weeping over Jerusalem teach you about his heart for those who reject him?
- How can Jesus' sorrow over Jerusalem encourage us to pray for those who are yet to accept him?
- How can you respond when you see God's house being misused or disrespected, based on Jesus' example?
- How does Jesus cleansing the temple inspire you to clean out anything in your life that may not be pleasing to him?

