



Week 2 - February 28

**Jesus Clears Merchants
From the Temple
John 2:13-22**

Key Verse: Psalm 95:6

Come, let us bow down in worship,
let us kneel before the Lord our Maker.

Activity: Temple Keys

When it was time for the annual Passover celebration, Jesus traveled to Jerusalem. When Jesus arrived, he went to the temple. He couldn't believe his eyes! There in the temple area he saw people who were selling cattle, sheep, and doves for the people to use as sacrifices in the temple. There were tables set up for money changers so that people could change their money to pay their temple taxes. It looked more like a carnival than a house of worship.

Jesus did not like what he saw. He was so angry he drove the cattle, sheep, and those who were selling them out of the temple. He went to the money changers and turned their tables over, scattering coins all over the temple floor. To the ones selling doves he said, "Get out of here! How dare you turn my Father's house into a market."

The merchants and money changers didn't know what the temple was really for - worship and praise. They were using the wrong "keys to the temple".

Materials: Temple Keys sheet (included)
Large paper clip (included)
Colored pencils or markers
Scissors
Hole punch (optional)

Instructions:

- The merchants and money changers let things get in the way of sincere worship. Sometimes we do that, too. As a reminder, write something important that we **SHOULD** do in our church - worship, praise, sing, pray, Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, etc. - on each key.
 - Cut out keys and punch (or poke) a hole at the top of the key.
 - Thread each key onto the paper clip.
 - Hang your Temple Keys where you can be reminded of the things Jesus wants us to do in our church.
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Activity: Spring Cleaning Challenge

It's almost **SPRING** and with it Spring Cleaning. Just like Jesus cleaned the temple when he threw out the merchants and money changers, we can clean our homes and our hearts.

Materials: Spring Cleaning Challenge sheet (included)

Elbow grease

Energy

Instructions:

- Write your name on one Spring Cleaning Challenge sheet (give the extra sheets to family members, or save them for you to use next week!).
- Tackle the Spring Cleaning Challenges - each completed task earns **ONE** point.
- Take the Challenge for one week - try to beat your score the next week!
- Challenge your family members - see who can earn the most points!

EVERYONE should follow these rules:

- ~ **DO NOT** throw away someone else's things ~
 - ~ **DO NOT** donate someone else's things ~
 - ~ **ASK FOR HELP** when needed ~
-

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

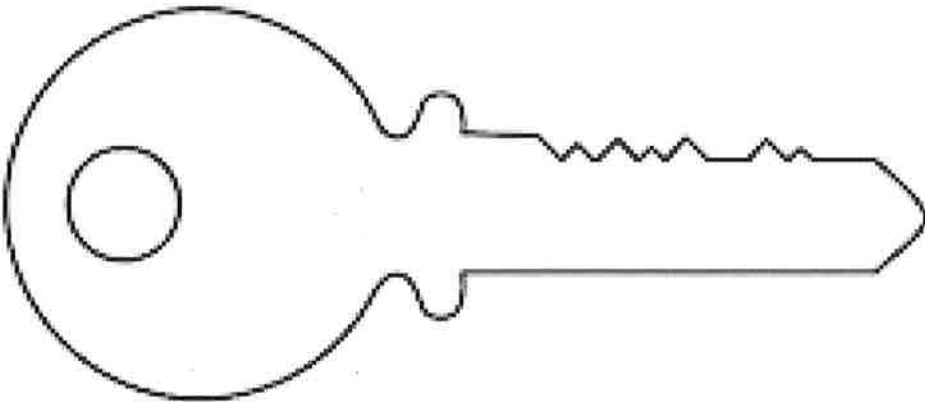
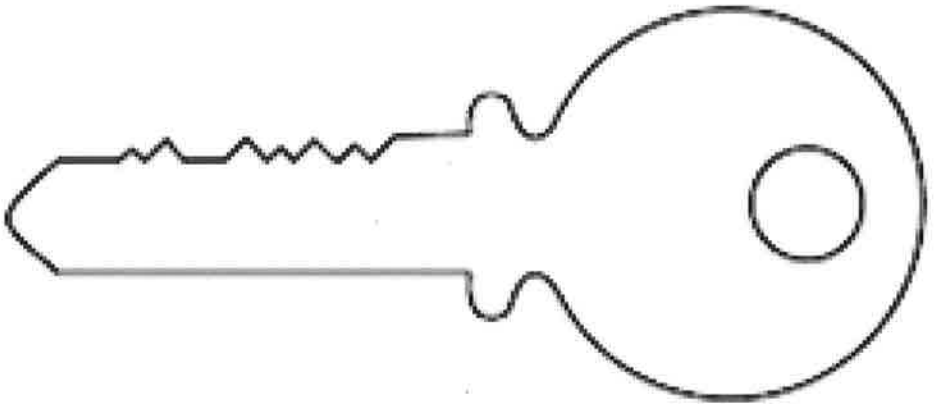
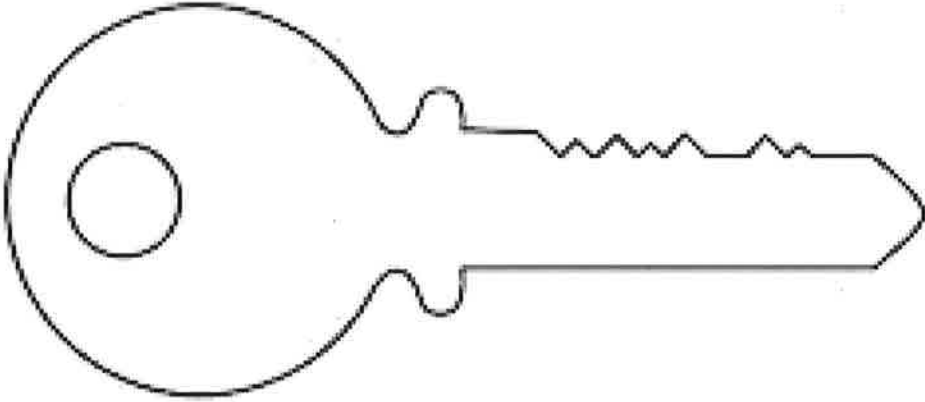
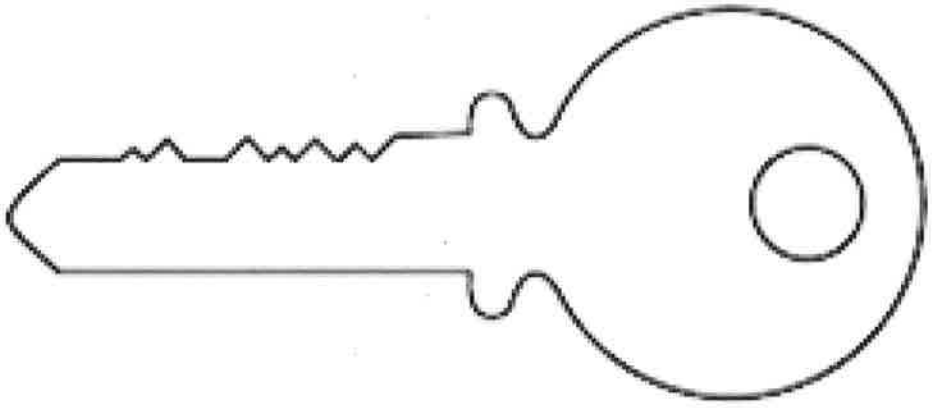
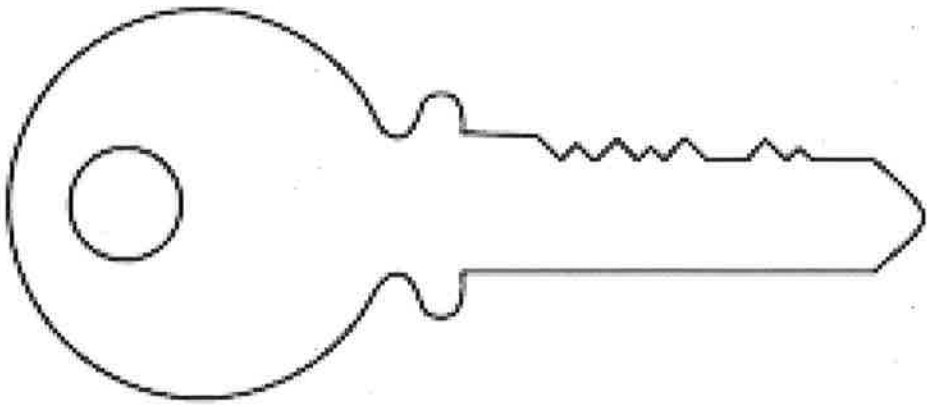
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Amen.

Prayer

Dear God, help us remember to worship you with sincere hearts
and not behave like the merchants and money changers in the temple.
Help us praise you as we keep our hearts and homes clean.

In Jesus' name, Amen!



Spring Cleaning Challenge



_____ name

- Each completed task earns ONE point.
- Take the Challenge for one week - try to beat your score the next week!
- Challenge your family members - see who can earn the most points.

EVERYONE should follow these rules:

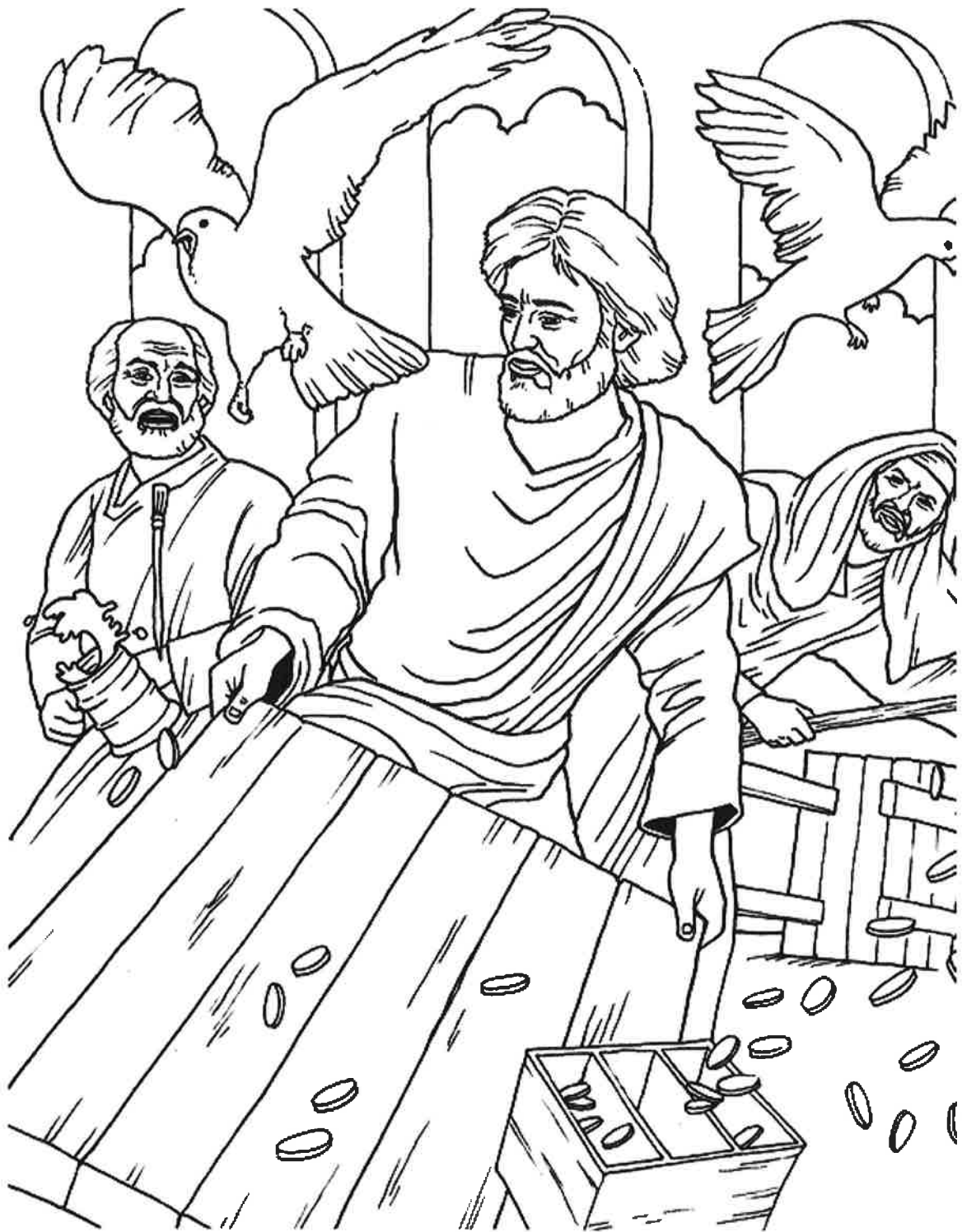
Do not throw away someone else's things.

Do not donate someone else's things.

Ask for help when needed - the more helpers, the faster the work goes.

- _____ Find 10 things in your room that are broken and throw them in the trash.
- _____ Find 10 pieces of your clothing that no longer fit, and donate them to St. John Lutheran Church for the Back-to-School Giveaway.
- _____ Find 10 things NOT in your room that SHOULD be in your room and put them away.
- _____ Dust 10 things in the living room
- _____ Find 10 books or DVDs you no longer read or watch and donate them to the thrift store.
- _____ Clean 10 mirrors or windows
- _____ When the laundry comes out of the dryer, find 10 pieces of clothing and fold or hang them right away
- _____ Pick up 10 pieces of trash outside your house (porch, yard, shed, garage) and throw them away.
- _____ Find 10 items IN your room that SHOULD NOT be in your room, and return them to their proper place.
- _____ Find 10 toys you no longer play with and donate them to the thrift store

You might think of other chores to add to the challenge -
add them on the back of the Challenge sheet.



Cleansing the Temple

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Cleaning House

So he made a whip out of cords, and drove all from the temple area, both sheep and cattle; he scattered the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. John 2:15 (NIV)

Based on John 2:13-16 (NIV)



C W C M C P A S S O V E R U N
 H F O B A Y D M O N E Y J A V
 A F U F T R K Y G E Q H K M S
 N O R G T P K I F F F G E G C
 G T T T L U I E C G K L S G A
 E E S E E Q N D T T A E N X T
 R C O M J D O V E S L I S B T
 S R B P S B B G U B L E P R E
 H D G L G Z N R A L E E I X R
 J L R E Y I E T E Z E I W E E
 P E K O T J X S C H F X H W D
 E E W T V J N M S E H K I W V
 W D I I P E H O U S E G P I Z
 N S D R S C D U C O R D S M S
 K V C X C H N A T I M E E G G

DROVE	SCATTERED	JERUSALEM	PASSOVER	SITTING
TEMPLE	COURTS	DOVES	SHEEP	CATTLE
TIME	MARKET	CHANGERS	JEWISH	MONEY
SELLING	HOUSE	TABLES	WHIP	CORDS

Cleaning House

So he made a whip out of cords, and drove all from the temple area, both sheep and cattle; he scattered the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. John 2:15 (NIV)



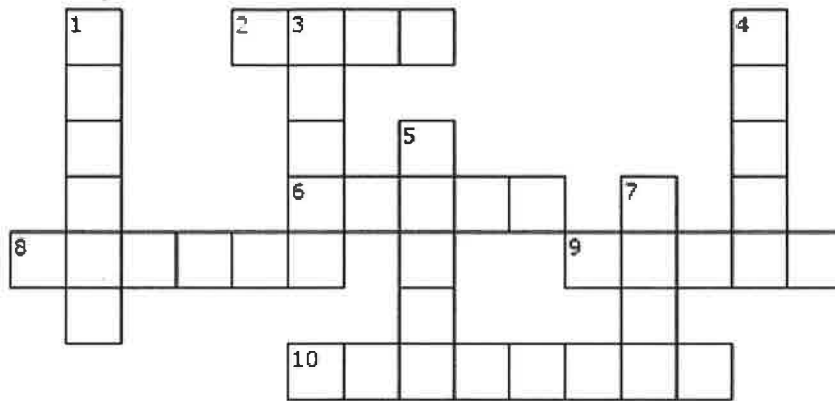
Choose the word that best matches the definition.
Answers can be found in John 2:13-16 (NIV)

- ___ 1. The Son of God
A. Jerusalem B. Passover C. Dove D. Jesus
- ___ 2. A place where people gather to buy and sell things
A. temple B. house C. market D. court
- ___ 3. A small, wild pigeon
A. cattle B. sheep C. dove D. chicken
- ___ 4. A piece of furniture with a smooth, flat surface and four legs
A. table B. chair C. whip D. bed
- ___ 5. Coins or bills used to pay for something
A. money B. cattle C. sheep D. dove
- ___ 6. A building dedicated to the worship of God
A. temple B. market C. table D. courts
- ___ 7. An animal raised for its wool
A. dove B. cattle C. whip D. sheep
- ___ 8. A strip of leather or cord fastened to a handle
A. table B. whip C. money D. dove
- ___ 9. A Jewish holiday celebrating being freed from slavery in Egypt
A. Christmas B. Easter C. Passover D. Thanksgiving
- ___ 10. A building where a family lives
A. market B. house C. temple D. tent

Cleaning House

So he made a whip out of cords, and drove all from the temple area, both sheep and cattle; he scattered the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. John 2:15 (NIV)

Based on John 2:13-16 (NIV)



ACROSS

2. A strip of leather or cord fastened to a handle
6. An animal raised for its wool
8. A building dedicated to the worship of God
9. Coins or bills used to pay for something
10. A Jewish holiday celebrating being freed from slavery in Egypt

DOWN

1. A place where people gather to buy and sell things
3. A building where a family lives
4. A piece of furniture with a smooth, flat surface and four legs
5. The Son of God
7. A small, wild pigeon

WHIP	MARKET	PASSOVER	SHEEP	TEMPLE
HOUSE	TABLE	MONEY	JESUS	DOVE