

Crossway Life Group, Week of June 12

See sermon videos, audio, and notes on [CMC's webpage](#) for background information

Community

Take time to share and pray for each other in your concerns and joys.

Scripture: Luke 19:47-20:19: "Authority"

Reading & Discussing Scripture

1. **Luke 19:47-20:8:** What question did the religious leaders ask Jesus? What do we know about their motivation for asking it?
2. What was Jesus' response to their question? What is significant about asking them their view of the source of authority for John the Baptist's ministry?
3. **Read Luke 20:9-19.** This is a shocking story. What makes it shocking? Why tell such a shocking story?
4. The religious leaders had a surface question, as well as a deeper objection to Jesus. In what ways is this story an answer to the surface question as well as the deeper objection?

The Big Idea

**God is astonishingly patient
AND
despite resistance or opposition
one day Jesus Christ will judge all
who did not submit to Him as King**



Application & Reflection Questions

5. How have you seen and experienced the superabounding patience of God?
6. The opinions of other people were amazingly powerful in the lives of the religious leaders. In what parts of your life are the opinions of people especially powerful?
7. In what parts of your life do you struggle to submit to Jesus completely as the Creator of everything and as the One who reigns as King over all?
8. In what way is the coming judgment by Jesus a source of hope and comfort to you? In what ways is it a source of worry or fear (or some other reaction)?
9. What hope is offered in these verses? "And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." *Acts 2:21* "Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved." *Acts 4:12*
10. That most important question in life is: "What are you doing about Jesus?" Why is that so important? What questions can seem more important? Who in your life needs to wrestle with this question?



Growing in Cultural Understanding

The interactions in the temple that day were very significant in terms of public honor and shame. Some cultures have a heavy emphasis on honor and shame, while others have less. And there is variation in our understanding of honor and shame. In what sense is honor and shame important for understanding your cultural and family heritage? In what sense is honor and shame important in our context today?

Serving beyond Ourselves

In the parable Jesus told, the Lord of the vineyard was astonishingly patient while calling for justice. And justice came. What might it look like for us to be astonishingly patient, yet also fully committed to justice?

Scripture

Luke 19:47-20:19 New International Version

⁴⁷ Every day he was teaching at the temple. But the chief priests, the teachers of the law and the leaders among the people were trying to kill him. ⁴⁸ Yet they could not find any way to do it, because all the people hung on his words.

The Authority of Jesus Questioned

One day as Jesus was teaching the people in the temple courts and proclaiming the good news, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, together with the elders, came up to him. ² “Tell us by what authority you are doing these things,” they said. “Who gave you this authority?”

³ He replied, “I will also ask you a question. Tell me: ⁴ John’s baptism—was it from heaven, or of human origin?”

⁵ They discussed it among themselves and said, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will ask, ‘Why didn’t you believe him?’ ⁶ But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ all the people will stone us, because they are persuaded that John was a prophet.”

⁷ So they answered, “We don’t know where it was from.”

⁸ Jesus said, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.”

The Parable of the Tenants

⁹ He went on to tell the people this parable: “A man planted a vineyard, rented it to some farmers and went away for a long time. ¹⁰ At harvest time he sent a servant to the tenants so they would give him some of the fruit of the vineyard. But the tenants beat him and sent him away empty-handed. ¹¹ He sent another servant, but that one also they beat and treated shamefully and sent away empty-handed. ¹² He sent still a third, and they wounded him and threw him out.

¹³ “Then the owner of the vineyard said, ‘What shall I do? I will send my son, whom I love; perhaps they will respect him.’

¹⁴ “But when the tenants saw him, they talked the matter over. ‘This is the heir,’ they said. ‘Let’s kill him, and the inheritance will be ours.’ ¹⁵ So they threw him out of the vineyard and killed him.

“What then will the owner of the vineyard do to them? ¹⁶ He will come and kill those tenants and give the vineyard to others.”

When the people heard this, they said, “God forbid!”

¹⁷ Jesus looked directly at them and asked, “Then what is the meaning of that which is written:

“‘The stone the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone’?”

¹⁸ Everyone who falls on that stone will be broken to pieces;
anyone on whom it falls will be crushed.”

¹⁹ The teachers of the law and the chief priests looked for a way to arrest him immediately, because they knew he had spoken this parable against them. But they were afraid of the people.