

## Home Group Notes 3

### Born to be Rejected: Mark 12 :1-12

#### Introduction

Have you ever been rejected? How did it feel? Or still feel? What are the outcomes of being rejected a) for a young child or b) an adult?

Why is rejection so significant and so devastating?

*We all have an inbuilt desire to 'belong'. As Christians we would understand that as a desire to belong to God and to others.*

#### Old Testament History

In recent weeks we have seen that the rejection of God's authority began in Genesis 3 but the rejection of God and his authority continued throughout the history of Israel.

Read Deut 32:18; Proverbs 1:23-25; Jeremiah 3:20; Ezekiel 6:9; Hosea 11:1-2; Amos 2:4

#### Words of Jesus

Read Psalm 118:21-23 and Matthew 21:42

Jesus is quoting from Psalm 118. What does this tell us about his foreknowledge of what would happen?

#### Read Mark 12:1-12

1. What is the context for this teaching? See Mark 11:27-28  
*The Jewish leaders are questioning the authority of Jesus*
2. Are there similarities with Adam and Eve questioning God's authority? Does this have something to say to us today?
3. Why were the Jewish leaders angry when they heard this parable?
4. What does this passage teach us about Father God?

5. What does it tell us about Jesus?
6. What does it tell us about our sinful nature and the freedom God gives us?

*Note God's patience and love for us and the willingness of Jesus to be rejected (thrown out of his own vineyard!). God gives us freedom to choose what to do but there is also reference to a day of judgement.*

#### Today

1. In what ways is Jesus rejected today? By religious groups? Individuals? Us?
2. How can we reach out to those who openly reject Jesus?
3. How do we react when someone on our frontline rejects our godly character or our attempts to share the gospel? And how can we support one another when we feel disheartened or rejected?
4. Jesus had the foreknowledge of rejection but set his face to accomplish the plan of salvation. How should this encourage us in our daily encounters on our frontline?

#### Prayer Points

- Thank God for his willingness to be rejected and still love us enough to die on the cross.
- Pray for all those who are struggling because they have been rejected by family or friends.
- Pray that as a church we will welcome all.
- Pray that we may persevere on our frontlines, in doing good work; modelling godly character; ministering grace and love; and bringing the gospel to everyone, recognising that they are loved by God and in need of His grace.