

St. John's EBCs, Everyday Bible Conversations!

EBC 3, 2, 1! – On Location in 2023! Leading to Worship Sunday, October 1, 2023

Reading: Matthew 21:23-32

EBC focuses on bringing the Bible into our Everyday Lives, emphasizing God's Everyday presence by finding connections in our physical world! EBC also has a video component on the St. John's website and St. John's YouTube channel. This week's video is the first of a two-part look at Jesus' jousting with the high priests and Pharisees, culminating in Jesus as the "cornerstone." Click here: <https://youtu.be/JuODTuq7OPw> Welcome to this week's EBC 3,2,1! Three points, two questions, and one action step!

Three Points

- In Matthew 22, the high priests and Pharisees try to trick Jesus, but Jesus does not "take the bait." Instead, Jesus poses this parable to the high priests and Pharisees:
- There were two sons, one who said he would not go work in the vineyard, but changed his mind and went, and another who said he would go work but did not. Who did his parents' will? The first, the high priests and Pharisees correctly respond.
- "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you." (Matthew 22:31)

Two Questions

- Let's consider the two sons. What is missing? Is there a "perfect" son, who neither grumbles, nor refuses, but instead says yes immediately, and then does what he promised? Is God expecting our "perfection?"
- Does Jesus say that the high priests and Pharisees are not going to heaven? What do you think it means that they are "behind" tax collectors and prostitutes?

Action Step

- Don't be afraid you don't do everything perfectly in the first place! Be someone working *toward* God.

Don't like these questions? Do these verses say something different to you? Great! What it is?

And as always, you are encouraged to find a friend (or two or many) and take an EBC coffee break! Find 15-25 minutes somewhere in the week and share your faith. Have fun finding God this week in your Everyday Life!