



CRUCIAL CONVERSATIONS

TODAY'S READING: JOHN 2:12-25
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SCRIPTURE: IS THERE A VERSE(S) THAT STOOD OUT TO ME?

John 2:14-16 - In the Temple area {Jesus} saw merchants selling cattle, sheep, and doves for sacrifices; he also saw dealers at tables exchanging foreign money. Jesus made a whip from some ropes and chased them all out of the Temple. He drove out the sheep and cattle, scattered the money changers' coins over the floor, and turned over their tables. Then, going over to the people who sold doves, he told them, "Get these things out of here. Stop turning my Father's house into a marketplace!"

OBSERVATION: WHAT IS GOD SAYING TO ME?

God is saying to me that I must be careful not to use His or Jesus name, that being my claim to be a Christian, as a way to gain financial or business advantages. It's not just God's house that must not be used as leverage for personal gain, which is greed, but His name and my status as a child of God must not be misused to satisfy my material desires.

APPLICATION: WHAT AM I GOING TO DO ABOUT IT?

First, I am going to seek to honor God and the name of His son Jesus in all my dealings with people, whether conducting business in the marketplace in my vocation, or conducting personal business. Second, I am going to encourage those that I have the opportunity to mentor in the sales field to honor God in all they do in business and trust that He will honor those intentions.

PRAYER: HOW CAN GOD HELP ME LIVE THIS OUT?

God, thank you for showing me as I have gathered life experience and wisdom that you find favor with me for honoring you and your ways, allowing me to know more joy in you. Please continue to be the small, still voice that reminds me that I belong to you and joy is found in pleasing you in all that I do every moment of every day.