<u>John 2:14</u>

God lives in heaven. He is not confined to any place. Long ago, God told his people to build a great house in Jerusalem for the name of the LORD, the God of Israel. God chose that place to put his name and to listen from heaven to the prayers of people in that house. God intended this building to be a house of prayer for all peoples. This temple of the LORD was the place where God caused his presence to specially dwell.

(1)

Think about John 2:13-16.

Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found those who were selling oxen and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting there. And making a whip of cords, he drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and oxen. And he poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. And he told those who sold the pigeons, "Take these things away; do not make my Father's house a house of trade."

- Why was Jesus so angry and fierce in the temple?
- Jesus said the temple was whose house?

(2)

Think about John 2:17.

His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me."

About 1000 years before Jesus was born, King David a Jewish prophet, wrote this of the promised Christ. <u>Psalm 69:9</u>

• After watching Jesus overthrow all the businesses in the temple, what did his students recall?

(3) Think about John 2:18-21.

So the Jews said to him, "What sign do you show us for doing these things?" Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews then said, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will you raise it up in three days?" But he was speaking about the temple of his body.

In these events, Jesus called God his father and accomplished a prophecy of King David. The Jews saw this as Jesus claiming to be the promised Christ, so they asked him to show them a sign as proof.

- What sign did Jesus promise them?
- Why do you think Jesus referred to his body as the temple?

(4)

Think about John 2:22.

When therefore he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the Scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

After Jesus was killed, he was buried in a grave. His dead body was in that tomb for three days. On the third day Jesus' dead body was raised to life – never to die again!

- When Jesus student's saw him raised alive from being dead, what did they remember?
- What did they believe?