

## **Read it Yourself Bible Readings and Prayer**

If you have a Bible at home you could find the story of Jesus in the Temple in Matthew chapter 21 verses 12 to 17.

If you don't have a Bible at home, or perhaps you have a Bible that uses old language and is a bit hard to understand then I've printed them below from newer versions of the Bible.

Jesus went into the temple and chased out everyone who was selling or buying. He turned over the tables of the moneychangers and the benches of the ones who were selling doves. <sup>13</sup>He told them, "The Scriptures say, 'My house should be called a place of worship.' But you have turned it into a place where robbers hide."

<sup>14</sup>Blind and lame people came to Jesus in the temple, and he healed them. <sup>15</sup>But the chief priests and the teachers of the Law of Moses were angry when they saw his miracles and heard the children shouting praises to the Son of David. <sup>[a]</sup> <sup>16</sup>The men said to Jesus, "Don't you hear what those children are saying?"

"Yes, I do!" Jesus answered. "Don't you know that the Scriptures say, 'You, Lord have taught children and infants to give You praise'?" <sup>17</sup>Then Jesus left the city and went out to the village of Bethany, where he spent the night.

**Prayer** is just talking to God. God loves us to talk to Him:

- We can tell Him about the things we've been doing,
- We can tell Him we're sorry if we've done something we shouldn't have done,
- We can tell Him "thank you" for the things He does for us and the things He gives us,
- We can tell Him when we're frightened,
- We can ask Him to be with us and give us peace and look after us,
- We can ask Him to give us the things that we need.

Why not pray now - you can just talk to God, He will always hear you, or you can write a prayer and say it to Him or you can read a prayer like this one:

"Dear Lord Jesus. Thank you for the sunshine, for rainbows for all the beautiful things in our world. Thank you for our families and our friends, even if we can't see our friends in real life at the moment.

We give You praise because You give us so many amazing things. Help us to remember that we can bring You praise even if we're feeling sad sometimes.

Please help our families and friends to know that we love them and that You love them very much. Please help them to stay safe and well through all that's happening at the moment. Amen."

