

Play: Before I count to 10

Sit in a circle with one person standing in the centre. The person in the centre has a sock with a foam ball in the toe. They call out a category, such as chocolate bars, fruit, colours etc. When they call out the category they throw the sock ball to someone in the circle and starts to count to ten. The person who catches the ball must say something from that category before the number 10 is reached (Mars bar, grape, red etc). If they don't say something in time then that person takes the place in the centre.

Experiment: Breaking point

Do an experiment to see how much pressure different types of paper (tissue paper, a sheet of newspaper, a length of toilet paper, a sheet of A4 file paper, a sheet of wrapping paper, a sheet of card) can take before they break. Write the names of the sorts of paper in a column down one side of a piece of paper. Hold out the each different type of paper aloft, while someone puts a wet tea bags or spoonfuls of sand on top. Count how many spoonfuls or wet teabags can be put onto the paper before it disintegrates and record the result on their score sheet. The exercise is repeated until they have a result for all the types of paper. (NB tell them to stop at 10, and if something is not broken by that time, to call it 10+) Does that mean that some sorts of paper are better than others? No - they all have their uses. Are all people the same? No - we are all different. As people have different breaking points - some get wound up more easily than others. Having a short temper does not make you a bad person, but people who know that they flare up easily need to learn to control their anger so that they only use anger when it is necessary, and not whenever they feel like it! God can help us not to lose our tempers if we ask Him to help us.

Watch: Jesus clears the temple <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WLOVY5FD6wA>

Read: Jesus clears the temple

When it was almost time for the Jewish Passover, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple courts he found people selling cattle, sheep and doves, and others sitting at tables exchanging money. So he made a whip out of cords, and drove all from the temple courts, both sheep and cattle; he scattered the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. To those who sold doves he said, 'Get these out of here! Stop turning my Father's house into a market!' His disciples remembered that it is written: 'Zeal for your house will consume me.'^[b]

The Jews then responded to him, 'What sign can you show us to prove your authority to do all this?' Jesus answered them, 'Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days.' They replied, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and you are going to raise it in three days?' But the temple he had spoken of was his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples recalled what he had said. Then they believed the Scripture and the words that Jesus had spoken. Now while he was in Jerusalem at the Passover Festival, many people saw the signs he was performing and believed in his name.^[c] But Jesus would not entrust himself to them, for he knew all people. He did not need any testimony about mankind, for he knew what was in each person.

Questions:

- Was Jesus right to get angry?
- Why was Jesus angry?
- What did Jesus do as a result of his anger?
- Did it make a difference, do you think?
- Do you think God gets angry about things?
- What things do you think God gets angry about today?
- Look at the world. Is God angry that children die of starvation, for example?



Pray:

Help us to turn our anger to seeking justice. Help us to be like you Jesus slow to anger and put things in place to help us think clearly. Amen.