

THE PARABLE OF THE TWO SONS

Matthew 21:23-32

Key Verse: 21:31b

1. Read verses 23-27. When Jesus entered the temple courts and was teaching, what question did the religious leaders ask him? What did they mean by these things? What was behind their question?
2. What counter question did Jesus ask? What was the religious leaders dilemma? What does this show about them? How did Jesus make them speechless? What is the source of Jesus authority?
3. Read verses 28-32. To whom was Jesus speaking this parable? How is it related to the previous passage? (18-27)
4. Review the father conversation with the first son (28-29). What kind of person is he? Can you think of anyone in the Bible or anywhere else who first said no but later obeyed?
5. Review the conversation with the second son (30). What kind of person is he? Why did he agree to go in the first place? Why did he back out? What question did Jesus ask? What was the answer?
6. How did Jesus apply this parable to the tax collectors, prostitutes and the religious leaders? How had they responded to the preaching of John the Baptist? Why is this important? What can we learn here about Jesus from Jesus parable? With whom do you identify?