



1. Read **John 11:35~53; Matthew 21:33~46; 10:34~39** / 2. The Gospels testify that Jesus can foster division, even among family. He cautions, with hyperbolic flare, that one must “hate” their family in comparison to the love they have for him (Luke 14:26). Have you ever experienced alienation or division on account of your faith? What was that like?/ 3. The religious leaders and the crowd were sometimes closely aligned and other times opposed. Jesus had to navigate the reception of his ministry with wisdom and courage. In the twenty-first century, what serves as your compass for guiding your decisions, practices, and beliefs? Have you experienced much continuity or discontinuity in your faith life’s trajectory? What led to this?/ 4. The religious leaders effectively told Jesus, “We don’t need you. We have everything in control.” Discuss the irony of their treatment of God incarnate at that point in Israel’s story. Have you ever been tempted to utter the same thing to Jesus? Discuss either a success or a failure in your own journey.

