



Sermon Discussion Guide

Jesus v the Powers - Rachel Dailey

March 1, 2026

Hook - Getting to know one another

- *How is everyone doing this week? Add other questions to get to know one another, especially ones related to the topic in the sermon.*
- *What is an "irrational" fear that you hold? (Where your mind tells you something is more dangerous than it really is)*

Book - Scripture

- *Read the scripture passages and discuss to understand **what the text is saying**:*
- **Mark 12:1-8**
 - *What stands out to you about the tenants' responses to the landowner's servants?*
 - *How does the arrival of the son change the situation?*
 - *What emotions do you feel when you read or hear this parable?*
 - *Who does the person who planted the vineyard represent? How about the farmers? The servants? The son?*
 - *What does the person who planted the vineyard hope to achieve as he sends his servants back to it? What does he actually receive?*
 - *What seems to motivate the tenants' escalating violence?*
 - *What do you think motivated the tenants to beat and kill those who were sent to them? What should their motivations have been instead?*

Look - Connections to our world today

- *This section focuses on implications about **what this text means** about what's wrong in the world, about trusting God, about who God is, etc.*
 - *What do the actions and behaviors of the characters in this parable reveal about their character and motives?*
 - *Looking at the parable, what does it show about how people respond when they are afraid?*



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- *How have you personally seen fear influence your decisions, reactions, or willingness to trust God?*
- *Are there areas in your life where fear makes you resistant to God's guidance or authority?*
- *What correlation do you see between fear and power in our world today?*
- *How does trusting God change the way we respond to fear about our future, security, or identity?*
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Took - Personal Application

- *This application focuses on **how God is calling us to respond**. This could be personally, as a family, small group, or church. It could be something to believe, to meditate on, to say or do this week.*
 - *Can you think of a moment where your fear led you to do something rash? Where are you personally experiencing fear?*
 - *Where has fear made us tightfisted, controlling, even violent?*
 - *What practices can help us become people who respond in trust rather than fear?*
 - *What would it look like for you to choose Jesus' courageous love in your life?*
 - *How does fear impact our church or small group?*
 - *How can we, as a church, stand against the fear present in our Hillcrest community? As a small group, what can we do to confront it? As ambassadors of Christ, how can we shine as a light amid the fear and darkness we see around us in Bellingham and beyond?*
 - *As followers of Christ, how can we model courageous trust in a culture often shaped by fear?*

Time of Prayer