



Sermon
Discussion
Guide

Sunday, April 2, 2023

Portraits of a Saviour Humble

Read/Reflect

1. Did you know that the event recorded in Matthew 21:1-5 is mentioned in all 4 Gospels? It is mentioned in Luke 19:28-44, Mark 11:1-11, and John 12:12-19. Together with your group, read all four accounts and discuss how they contribute together to paint a picture of the same event.
2. In Matthew 21:5, the Gospel writer quotes from Zechariah 9:9. Read both passages together. What is missing in Matthew? Why do you think Matthew omitted it?
3. What is the significance of Jesus riding on a donkey to enter Jerusalem?

Explore

1. When you think about a king (or high positions of leadership), does the word “humble” come to mind? Why or why not?
2. In Zechariah 9:10, the prophet speaks of a messianic king who comes to proclaim peace (“Shalom”) by abolishing instruments of war. What kind of peace has Jesus come to establish? How does Jesus accomplish this?
3. Instead of coming as a military conqueror, Jesus comes as the humble king to establish peace. In John, it says that even his disciples did not fully understand what was happening before their eyes (Jn. 12:16). In what ways have we misunderstood what God was doing in the moment only to realize later that He has done something far greater than what we hoped for or even thought we needed?
4. The crowds were shouting “Hosanna” because they thought Jesus was coming to save them by overthrow the Roman government. But as the story turns out, this is not what Jesus came to do. Has there ever been a time when you realized your expectations of Jesus were false? How did you realize that your expectations were false? What do you think are the things that lead us to hold false expectations or inaccurate views of Jesus?
5. In v.10, Matthew recounts that the whole city was stirred and asked “Who is this?” How would you answer this question if someone were to ask you today?

Pray

- *“Mighty God, we look for salvation and security in many different places. We confess we’re tempted to seek out a pumped-up Savior of power who would flex ripping muscles. Prepare our hearts to welcome our humble servant-King, Jesus, finding in him all we need for our salvation. Amen.”*
(Prayer from *Seeking God’s Face*)