Who comes to you?

Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion! Shout, Daughter Jerusalem! See, <u>your king comes to you</u>, righteous and victorious, lowly and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. Zechariah 9:9

"Lord, save us! Lord, grant us success! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord." Psalm 118:25-26

Why?

Crown Him or kill Him. Those were the two options for the people in Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, and they are the same two options for us today. Crown Jesus as your king, or reject him. There is no in-between. Jesus is not just a good moral teacher, or a genie who grants our wishes when we pray. He is not someone we get to define. He is either the Son of God, or a fraud. If He is the Son of God, He deserves our everything, because he gave His everything for us.

Whoever serves me must follow me; and where I am, my servant also will be. John 12:26

Community Group Questions:

- 1. What is the most important takeaway in this story for you?
- 2. How do you respond when God doesn't do what you want?
- 3. How is the crowd's response in Jerusalem similar/different from the response Jesus gets from people today? How about you?
- 4. Why do you think people like to define who Jesus is themselves?



¹ As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ² saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. ³ If anyone says anything to you, tell him that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away." ⁴ This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet:

⁵"Say to the Daughter of Zion, 'See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.' "

⁶ The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. ⁷ They brought the donkey and the colt, placed their cloaks on them, and Jesus sat on them. ⁸ A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road.

⁹ The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Hosanna in the highest!"

¹⁰ When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, "Who is this?" ¹¹ The crowds answered, "This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee." ¹² Jesus entered the temple area and drove out all who were buying and selling there. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the benches of those selling doves.

¹³ "It is written," he said to them, " 'My house will be called a house of prayer,' but you are making it a 'den of robbers.'"

¹⁴ The blind and the lame came to him at the temple, and he healed them. ¹⁵ But when the chief priests and the teachers of the law saw the wonderful things he did and the children shouting in the temple area, "Hosanna to the Son of David," they were indignant.

¹⁶ "Do you hear what these children are saying?" they asked him. "Yes," replied Jesus, "have you never read, " 'From the lips of children and infants you have ordained praise'?" ¹⁷ And he left them and went out of the city to Bethany, where he spent the night. (NIV)

When? Who? Why?

Why is it important to ask these questions of the text?

Hint... Thoughtful observation usually precedes correct interpretation and thus proper application. It is important to remember when we read the Bible today we are translating language AND culture.

From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life. Matthew 16:21

When?

Why is it important for us to understand Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem is not random but perfectly timed?

Notes...

Who?

Who rides a donkey?

³³ he said to them: "Take your lord's servants with you and have Solomon my son mount my own mule and take him down to Gihon. ³⁴ There have Zadok the priest and Nathan the prophet anoint him king over Israel. Blow the trumpet and shout, 'Long live King Solomon!' ³⁵ Then you are to go up with him, and he is to come and sit on my throne and reign in my place. I have appointed him ruler over Israel and Judah." 1 Kings 1:33-35

Who is the Son of David?

¹¹ "'The Lord declares to you that the Lord himself will establish a house for you: ¹² When your days are over and you rest with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring to succeed you, your own flesh and blood, and I will establish his kingdom. ¹³ He is the one who will build a house for my Name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. ¹⁴ I will be his father, and he will be my son.

2 Samuel 7:11-14

Is this promise about Solomon or Jesus?