

**Title:** A Different Kingdom

**Big Idea:** God's kingdom advances through service, sacrifice, & surrender not clutching, clobbering & controlling.

**12:9** Now a great many of the Jews knew that He was there; and they came, not for Jesus' sake only, but that they might also see Lazarus, whom He had raised from the dead. **10** But the chief priests plotted to put Lazarus to death also, **11** because on account of him many of the Jews went away and believed in Jesus.

The way of the world: Keep power, control the narrative, & kill whoever is in the way.

God's way: Give power, speak the truth, & love people.

**12** The next day a great multitude that had come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, **13** took branches of palm trees and went out to meet Him, and cried out: "Hosanna! 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!' The King of Israel!"

People don't elect a king; kings are called by God.

### **1. God is the Lord.**

**14** Then Jesus, when He had found a young donkey, sat on it; as it is written: **15** "Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your King is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt."  
...this is Zechariah's prophecy & a way to recognize the Messiah.

### **2. Jesus is the king of peace.**

Jesus comes in peace as a servant to give us peace.

**16** His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things were written about Him and *that* they had done these things to Him.

It is in hindsight that we often can best see the hand of God at work.

**17** Therefore the people, who were with Him when He called Lazarus out of his tomb and raised him from the dead, bore witness. **18** For this reason the people also met Him, because they heard that He had done this sign. **19** The Pharisees therefore said among themselves, "You see that you are accomplishing nothing. Look, the world has gone after Him!"

**20** Now there were certain Greeks among those who came up to worship at the feast. **21** Then they came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida of Galilee, and asked him, saying, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." **22** Philip came and told Andrew, and in turn Andrew and Philip told Jesus. **23** But Jesus answered them, saying, "The hour has come that the Son of Man should be glorified.

### **3. Make God's glory the goal.**

**24** Most assuredly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it produces much grain. **25** He who loves his life will lose it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life.

**26** If anyone serves Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also. If anyone serves Me, him *My* Father will honor.

**27** “Now My soul is troubled, and what shall I say? ‘Father, save Me from this hour’? But for this purpose I came to this hour. **28** Father, glorify Your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, *saying*, “I have both glorified *it* and will glorify *it* again.” **29** Therefore the people who stood by and heard *it* said that it had thundered. Others said, “An angel has spoken to Him.” **30** Jesus answered and said, “This voice did not come because of Me, but for your sake.

### **Discussion Questions**

Look over these questions before your group time. Write down your answers or ideas for at least a few questions if not all. You may not get to every question during your time, but speak up if you want to talk about one of them in particular. Always try to start with question #1.

1. What stood out to you and/or what do you think God might be speaking about from this message?
2. How do we stay “small in our own eyes” but still care about excellence & effort in our work?
3. What would it look like to “bury your life” in God’s kingdom rather than protect it for yourself?
4. What areas of your life are you most tempted to “clutch and control” instead of surrendering to God's lordship? Why is it hard to let go?
5. What does Jesus riding a donkey in peace teach us about our own lives and leadership?
6. How could this message help you to be more willing to sacrifice, surrender & serve others for God’s glory?