

## Matthew 21:1-46

The text is too long to print here, so please read the appropriate passages, as needed, from your Bible.

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### DEFINITIONS OF FAITH provided in the message:

**Faith** is belief, trust, and loyalty to a person or thing. Faith is belief in the truth of something to the point of it defining life and reality. Faith is belief that leads you to action.

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**Faith** simply means believing that something is true, and then committing our lives to it. In the Bible, “faith” means believing in God, and in what Christ has done for us to make our salvation possible—and then committing ourselves to Him.     **- Billy Graham**

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### DEFINITIONS OF REPENTANCE provided in the message:

**Repentance:** a change of belief that leads to action – turning from sin and towards God. Not merely turning from sin but running to God.

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# THE KING & HIS KINGDOM



## THE STORY OF JESUS

### Finding Real Faith

Matthew 21:1-46

3/10/2019

### TRIUMPHAL ENTRY

- The arrival on a **donkey** demonstrates Jesus’ fulfillment of **prophecy**. (Zechariah 9:9-10)
- The arrival on a donkey and clearing of the temple reveal Jesus’ true **mission** – a spiritual kingdom, not a geo-political one.

### UNDERSTANDING FAITH

- We see from the views of the crowd and religious leaders the importance of faith built on **right understanding**. (9-17, Romans 10:14-17)
- Faith produces **fruit**. (vs 18-19, 43. James 2:14-26)
- Biblical faith recognizes that God is **sovereign**. He will accomplish His will no matter how impossible it seems (vs 21-22, 1 John 5:14-15).
- Faith leads to **repentance** (vs 28-32).
- **Saving** faith is built on **Christ** (vs 33-43, Acts 4:11-12).

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### GROWTH GROUP DIGGING DEEPER QUESTIONS

To catch the weekend message, go to: [MissionTrailsChurch.com/watch-and-listen](http://MissionTrailsChurch.com/watch-and-listen)

#### GETTING STARTED

1. Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, **was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged, inspired or confused you?**

#### DIGGING DEEPER

2. **Read Matthew 21:1-17**

**Do these events, the entry on the donkey and the clearing of the temple, provide proof and clarity for you about Jesus' legitimacy and the purpose of His mission?**

**Why is it helpful to our spiritual understanding that Matthew included these details?**

3. **Look at the definitions of faith on the other page and then read Romans 10:17 & John 8:31-32**

In the message, we discussed the importance of faith plus **right** understanding. **What do Matthew 21 and these additional passages show us about the importance of faith + understanding?**

#### GETTING PERSONAL

4. **Read John 15:1-5, Hosea 6:6, James 2:26 and Acts 26:20**

**How does faith built on right understanding lead us to repentance (see definition on other page)? How does God working in our lives lead to bearing fruit?**

5. **Read Matthew 21:20-22 and I John 5:14-15**

We sometimes put God in a box of small thinking based on what we believe is possible rather than trusting God beyond our own preconceptions – even when it comes to other people. We can find ourselves hesitating to believe that certain people can or will turn to God because they seem too far removed from Him. **How do these passages point us to the sovereignty of God and help build our faith on greater understanding?**

#### BRINGING IT HOME

6. **Read Acts 4:11-12**

Saving faith is built on Christ. **Is your faith in Christ alone? Are other things competing for your faith? How can you build your faith on right understanding and make Christ the center of your life?**

#### PRAY TOGETHER