

LIFE GROUPS

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Did you ever have unrealistic expectations of your parents when you were younger? Who has placed unrealistic expectations upon you?
2. **Read Mark 11:1-3.** What was the significance of the city of Jerusalem in this context? What was the political, social and religious experience for the Jews at this time?
3. **Read Zechariah 9:9.** What message did Jesus communicate to the crowd by riding into Jerusalem on a donkey?
4. What expectations did the people have of Jesus? How did their expectations differ from Jesus' true mission?
5. **Read Mark 11:4-10.** What did the response (in word and action) of the people to Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem mean?
6. What does the term "Hosanna" mean? How do we sing "Hosanna" with our lives and not just our lips?
7. **Read Luke 19:39-44.** Mark leaves out the details of these verses that Luke does include in his gospel. How do the words of the people differ from what Jesus knows about their hearts? Why does Jesus provide salvation for us even though He knows our hearts are like the Jews of His day?
8. **Read Mark 11:11.** Is this verse anti-climactic? Please explain.
9. **Read Ezekiel 11:23.** How did the Israelites miss God's heart in 586 BC and in Jesus' day? How do we miss God's presence in our lives today?
10. **Read John 2:23-25.** What do you think Jesus thought of the praise of the crowd? Was there a difference between their expectations of Jesus and the reality of Jesus?
11. Do believers ever fall into the trap of having unhealthy expectations of God? How does God exceed our expectations?
12. **Read Psalm 51:16-17.** What kind of praise is acceptable to God?
13. What are some obstacles that hinder us from giving praise to God? What are some practical steps we can take to prepare our hearts to properly praise God?



The False Praise

Mark 11:1-11

March 01, 2020