

Day 1: You Have a King

Reading: Zechariah 9:9-10; Luke 19:28-40

Devotional: From the moment of His birth, Jesus came with controversy because He came as King. Herod's authority was threatened, and throughout history, people have struggled with surrendering to Christ's kingship. Today, we wake up wearing invisible crowns, believing we're in charge of our own lives. But Palm Sunday reminds us that Jesus intentionally claimed His rightful place as King. He didn't accidentally ride into Jerusalem on a donkey—it was planned, purposeful, and prophetic. The question isn't whether Jesus is King; the question is whether you'll acknowledge Him as YOUR King. What crown are you wearing today? Is it your career, your family, your plans? Jesus invites you to remove it and place it at His feet, recognizing that true freedom comes only through surrender to the one true King.

Reflection: What areas of your life are you still trying to control instead of surrendering to King Jesus?

Day 2: He Is a Good King

Reading: Psalm 145:8-13; Matthew 11:28-30

Devotional: The Old Testament chronicles king after king who failed God's people—nineteen consecutive bad kings in the northern kingdom alone. Israel desperately needed a good king, and Jesus came as the answer to that longing. Unlike earthly rulers who exploit their subjects, Jesus is compassionate, merciful, loving, humble, righteous, faithful, patient, and forgiving. He's the King who disadvantages Himself for the betterment of His people. This is the King who would soon wash His disciples' feet, who would lay down His life for His subjects. When we struggle to trust Jesus with our lives, we forget His character. He's not a tyrant waiting to crush your dreams; He's a good King who knows what's best for you. His kingdom operates on love, not fear; on grace, not performance.

Reflection: How does understanding Jesus as a "good King" change the way you approach obedience and surrender?

Day 3: The King Will Be Praised

Reading: Philippians 2:5-11; Luke 19:37-40

Devotional: "If they kept quiet, the stones along the road would burst into cheers." What a profound statement! Jesus declares that His praise cannot be contained—creation itself groans for its King. The Pharisees demanded silence, threatened by Jesus' authority, but praise to the King is inevitable. Within days, the crowd's "Hosanna" would turn to "Crucify Him," yet Jesus rode on. He knew rejection was coming. He knew the cross awaited. But He also knew His Father would have the last word. Your King will be praised whether people acknowledge Him or not. The

rocks will sing if humans refuse. This week, as we journey toward the cross and resurrection, remember that we serve a King whose victory is certain. Praise isn't optional—it's the natural response to encountering the King of kings.

Reflection: Are you withholding praise from Jesus in any area of your life? What keeps you from wholehearted worship?

Day 4: When Authority Is Threatened

Reading: John 18:33-37; Acts 4:23-31

Devotional: We live in a culture where authority is conditional—"not my president," we say when we disagree. But Jesus' kingship isn't up for vote. Throughout His ministry, authorities felt threatened: Herod tried to kill Him as a baby, religious leaders plotted against Him, and Pilate struggled with what to do with Him. Why? Because true authority exposes false authority. When Jesus rides into Jerusalem, He's making a statement: "My kingdom is not of this world." He's not competing with earthly powers; He's establishing an eternal kingdom. The question Pilate asked—"Are you a king?"—is the question every person must answer. Jesus' response was clear: "You say that I am." His authority doesn't depend on our recognition, but our eternal destiny depends on our response to His kingship.

Reflection: In what ways do you feel threatened by Jesus' authority over your life? What would full surrender look like?

Day 5: The Cross Was Not an Accident

Reading: Isaiah 53:1-12; Luke 23:32-46

Devotional: Jesus didn't accidentally get on a donkey, and He didn't accidentally go to the cross. It was planned. It had purpose. As He rode into Jerusalem hearing "Hosanna," He knew that within days those same voices would shout "Crucify Him!" Yet He continued forward. Our good King knew exactly what awaited Him—rejection, beating, crucifixion—and still He came. Why? Because He knew that for those who would remove their crowns and make Him King, His Father would have the last word. The cross wasn't defeat; it was victory. The tomb wouldn't hold Him. Today, as we approach Easter, remember that your King willingly laid down His life so you could truly live. He disadvantaged Himself completely—suffering, dying, descending—so that you could be raised with Him. This is your King. This is your good King. He is worthy of all praise.

Reflection: How does knowing Jesus chose the cross change your understanding of His love for you? How will you respond this Easter?