

DISCUSSION GUIDE FOR: JESUS, THE HUMBLE KING - APRIL 2, 2023

PRIMARY PASSAGES:

And as Jesus was going up to Jerusalem, He took the twelve disciples aside, and on the way He said to them, "See, we are going up to Jerusalem. And the Son of Man will be delivered over to the chief priests and scribes, and they will condemn Him to death and deliver Him over to the Gentiles to be mocked and flogged and crucified, and He will be raised on the third day." - Matthew 20:17-19 (ESV)

Now when they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord needs them,' and he will send them at once." This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying,

*"Say to the daughter of Zion,
'Behold, your king is coming to you,
humble, and mounted on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.'"*

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and He sat on them. Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. And the crowds that went before Him and that followed Him were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!" And when He entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, "Who is this?" And the crowds said, "This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee." - Matthew 21:1-11 (ESV)

Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen. - Ephesians 3:20-21 (NIV)

MESSAGE HIGHLIGHTS:

1. Jesus is the Humble King we need!
2. Jesus is the Humble King we need because
 - Jesus Commands Authority
 - Therefore we can joyfully submit to His authority.
 - Jesus Fulfills Promises
 - Therefore we can trust Him to fulfill God's promises to us today.
 - Jesus Exceeds Expectations
 - Therefore we can look to the cross to remind us of His deep love for us.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What are characteristics of a good leader? What leader have you joyfully followed and why?
2. Where are you finding it difficult to submit to Jesus's authority over your life or to trust that Jesus is still in control?



3. What is the hardest part for you about promises: keeping them, believing them or waiting on them?
 - Where do you need help trusting God's promises and submitting to God's timeline?
4. What false expectations might you have of Jesus that are keeping you from Him?
5. What false expectations might you have of Jesus that are leading to disappointment with Him?
 - How might looking at the events of Holy Week, and especially the cross, help to realign your expectations and remind you of God's deep love and care for you?
6. What do you sense the Holy Spirit asking you to do as a result of this conversation, and how can the members of this group pray for you this week?

Thank You, Jesus, for Your great love for us. Thank You that You command authority, fulfill promises and exceed expectations. Help us to submit to and trust You this week. Realign our expectations with Your goodness and will. Bring us truth, comfort, strength and joy as we follow You, our Humble King this week. Amen.

