

He Is Here – Palm Sunday

March 29, 2026

Opening Thought

Palm Sunday is a moment filled with celebration, expectation, and confusion. Jesus arrives, people respond loudly, but not everyone understands who He really is.

As a group, take a few minutes to reflect:

When you think about Jesus showing up in your life, what comes to mind? Comfort? Questions? Uncertainty? Hope?

1. Some Wonder About Jesus (Matthew 21:10-11, Matthew 16:13-16)

The crowd asked, “*Who is this?*” Even while celebrating, many didn’t truly understand who Jesus was.

It’s possible to be around Jesus, hear about Him, and still not fully know Him.

- Sometimes we shape Jesus into who we *want* Him to be
- But Jesus doesn’t leave that question open forever, He asks, “*Who do you say I am?*”

Discussion Questions

- Why do you think people in the crowd were unsure about who Jesus was, even in that moment?
- Where do you see people today “redefining” Jesus to fit their preferences?
- This is personal: Who would you say Jesus is, right now, in your life?

Follow-Up Prompt

What has most shaped your view of Jesus, upbringing, experience, Scripture, or something else?

Key Takeaways

- Wondering about Jesus is often a starting point, not a destination
- Jesus invites a personal response, not just a general opinion
- Clarity about who Jesus is changes everything

2. Some Reject Jesus (Matthew 21:15, 1 Corinthians 1:18)

Even as Jesus was being praised, others were frustrated and resistant.

Not everyone rejects Jesus loudly, sometimes it shows up as resistance when He doesn’t meet expectations.

- We can want Jesus to act on *our terms*
- The message of the cross can feel uncomfortable or even foolish
- At the core, rejection often comes down to control

Discussion Questions

- Why do you think the religious leaders reacted so strongly against Jesus?
- What are some modern reasons people push back against Jesus or Christianity?
- Where can it be difficult for you to trust Jesus, especially when things don't go how you want?

Follow-Up Prompt

Have you ever wrestled with something Jesus said or asked of you? What did you do with that?

Key Takeaways

- Rejection is not always obvious, it can be subtle and internal
- Following Jesus challenges our expectations and control
- Avoiding or dismissing Jesus still leads to a decision about Him

3. Some Believe in Jesus (Matthew 21:9, Romans 10:9-10, John 3:16-17)

Some in the crowd recognized Jesus for who He truly is and responded in faith.

Belief is more than agreement, it's trust, surrender, and alignment.

- Believing Jesus is Savior means trusting Him for forgiveness
- Believing Jesus is Lord means surrendering control of your life
- True belief engages both the head and the heart

Discussion Questions

- What's the difference between knowing about Jesus and truly believing in Him?
- Why is it important to recognize Jesus as both Savior *and* Lord?
- What does it look like, practically, to live like Jesus is Lord in everyday life?

Follow-Up Prompt

Is there an area of your life where trusting Jesus as Lord feels challenging right now?

Key Takeaways

- Belief in Jesus is personal and transformational
- Jesus doesn't ask for partial trust, He invites full surrender
- Faith is not just what we think, it shapes how we live

Closing Reflection

On Palm Sunday, the same question still stands:

“Who is this?”

Everyone responds to Jesus in some way, with curiosity, resistance, or belief.

Take a moment as a group to reflect:

Which response do you relate to most right now, and why?

Optional Reflection and Prayer

Take a quiet moment to reflect on where you are in your response to Jesus.

Pray together, asking God to:

- Reveal more clearly who Jesus is
- Strengthen your faith where it feels weak
- Help you trust Him not just as Savior, but as Lord