

Small Group Discipleship Guide

Ice Breaker

Question: Have you ever been in a crowd caught up in something bigger than yourself — a sporting event, a concert, a moment of celebration? What was it like, and what were people crying out for?

Scripture Reading

Have someone read **Romans 6:1-14**:

Setting the Scene

Pastor Phil opened by placing us in the crowd on Palm Sunday — people waving palms, laying down outer garments, pressing in to see the man on the donkey. “Hosanna” was their cry. It was a word of praise, but also a desperate plea: *Save us now*. They were shouting it at the only one who could actually answer it — but most had no idea what saving them would actually cost Him. Just a few days later, Jesus was nailed to a cross. And according to Romans 6, more than Jesus was nailed there.

Discussion Questions

Understanding the Message

1. “Hosanna” is both a shout of praise *and* a cry for help — its literal meaning is *save us now*. If you’re honest, what are you most crying out to Jesus to save you from right now? Is it easier to praise Him or to admit you need rescue?
2. Why do you think we keep reaching for something we know Jesus already died to free us from?
3. Baptism represents our old self going under the water and not coming back up we are raised to walk in newness of life. Whether you’ve been baptized or not, how have you experienced that reality of the “old self” losing its power in your life? Where have you seen it — and where is it still fighting?

Going Deeper

4. Romans 6:6 says our old self “was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be rendered powerless.” — who we were before Jesus no longer has to have

power over us. What would it look like in your daily life if you truly lived like that was true?

5. Pastor Phil addressed two groups: those who haven't yet followed Jesus, and those who have but are still trapped in sin they keep picking back up. Which place do you find yourself in — and what does it feel like to sit there?
6. At the end of the sermon, Pastor Phil invited people to write down the sin they're being held by and nail it to the cross. What is it for you — even if you don't say it out loud — and what would it mean to truly leave it there?

Personal Reflection

Read this slowly and sit with it:

"His love is unconditional and he knows that when you submit to his calling in your life you will be set free." — Pastor Phil

Ask yourself: - What sin or shame am I still carrying that Jesus already took to the cross? - Am I willing to call out *Hosanna* — save me now — and actually let Him?
