

Mission Declared: What Are You Laying Down?

A deeper devotional companion for the week following the March 29 service at Crosswalk Church

This Palm Sunday service at Crosswalk Church centers on Jesus' public declaration as King in Luke 19:28-44. Through worship, communion, response, giving, and the preaching of the Word, the church is invited to see Christ clearly, lay down competing expectations, and follow Him in full surrender.

How to Use This Guide

This guide is meant to carry the service into the week. Each day returns to a different movement in Luke 19:28-44 and draws out the sermon's central question: What are you laying down? Read slowly. Pray honestly. And take one concrete step of obedience each day.

Service Movement	What It Emphasized
Opening Worship	Tear Off The Roof, Same God, What a Beautiful Name
Response	Communion and guided response
Welcome & Giving	Announcements, tithes, offerings, meet and greet
Message	Mission Declared: What Are You Laying Down?
Closing	King of Kings and benediction

A Simple Rhythm for the Week

Read the passage slowly. Notice what it shows you about Jesus. Answer the reflection questions in writing if you can. Then end by acting on the practice step that day.

Day 1 | The King Steps Into the Open

Read Luke 19:28-38 and Zechariah 9:9.

Teaching

For much of His ministry, Jesus told people to stay quiet about His identity. But here He moves into Jerusalem in a way that cannot be misunderstood. He chooses the colt. He fulfills the prophecy. He receives the public language of kingship. Palm Sunday is not a moment of confusion. It is a moment of declaration. Jesus is not drifting toward the cross by accident. He is walking straight into the center of the Father's purpose. That matters for us because discipleship begins with seeing Jesus as He really is. He is not a helper for our plans. He is the King who claims our allegiance.

Reflect

- Where have I treated Jesus as support for my own plans instead of Lord over them?
- What changes when I remember that Jesus moved toward the cross on purpose?

Practice

Write one sentence that begins, 'Jesus, You are King over...' and finish it with the area of life you most resist giving Him.

Pray

Jesus, open my eyes again to who You are. Keep me from shrinking You down to fit my agenda. Teach me to welcome You as King.

Notes

Day 2 | The Lord Has Need of It

Read Luke 19:29-34.

Teaching

One of the sermon's clearest insights is that Jesus invites people to take part in His mission. The colt belongs to someone. The disciples have to go get it. The owners have to release it. None of them are the center of the story, yet each of them is asked to place what they have at the Lord's disposal. This is how the kingdom often works. Jesus does not need our gifts in the sense that He lacks power, but He regularly chooses to work through surrendered people. So the question is not whether you have enough. It is whether what you have is available. Time, attention, resources, reputation, hospitality, service, even your weakness can become part of His mission when offered to Him.

Reflect

- What has Jesus placed in my hands right now that could be used for His mission?
- Do I live as though asking for help or offering what I have is weakness?

Practice

Choose one tangible thing to place before the Lord today: an hour, a meal, an encouraging call, a financial gift, or an act of service.

Pray

Lord, everything I have is already Yours. Free me from clutching what was meant to be offered. Make me willing and useful in Your hands.

Notes

Day 3 | Worship That Matches Reality

Read Luke 19:35-40 and 2 Kings 9:13.

Teaching

Luke's account highlights the laying down of cloaks. That royal gesture matters. The crowd is not simply enjoying a dramatic moment. They are responding, at least in part, to the reality that a King is before them. Yet the service and sermon both press beyond outward praise. It is possible to sing loudly, admire Jesus, and still resist His authority. Real worship is not just emotional volume. It is honest surrender. The crowd laid garments on the road. We are called to lay down pride, control, hidden conditions, and every rival loyalty. The point is not to ask whether we have worship in our lives. The point is to ask whether our worship lines up with the truth of who Jesus is.

Reflect

- What am I willing to express publicly for Jesus, and what am I still unwilling to surrender privately?
- Is there a gap between my worship on Sunday and my obedience during the week?

Practice

Name one specific expectation, fear, or demand you need to lay down. Write it on paper and bring it into prayer before God.

Pray

Jesus, I don't want surface-level worship. Receive my praise, and then lead me into deeper obedience. What I lay before You today, keep from my taking back tomorrow.

Notes

Day 4 | The Peace We Miss

Read [Luke 19:41-44](#).

Teaching

Luke is the only Gospel that gives us this scene right after the public praise. Jesus sees Jerusalem and He weeps. That is important. The King enters the city and the King mourns the city. Why? Because people can be close to religious activity and still miss the peace of God standing right in front of them. They knew the promises. They knew the language. They knew what a Messiah should do, at least in their minds. But because they wanted God on their terms, they missed the day of visitation. That warning still lands. Familiarity with church, songs, sermons, and Bible language is not the same thing as surrendered faith. Peace is found not in getting Jesus to meet our conditions, but in receiving Him as He comes.

Reflect

- Have I confused nearness to Christian things with nearness to Christ Himself?
- What condition have I quietly placed on full obedience to Jesus?

Practice

Take five quiet minutes today and ask, 'Lord, where have I grown familiar without growing surrendered?' Write whatever comes to mind.

Pray

Lord Jesus, keep me from missing You while standing near holy things. Give me a heart that sees, receives, and follows.

Notes

Day 5 | Lay It All Down

Read Luke 19:28-44 again as a whole.

Teaching

By the end of the sermon, the application is direct: lay it all down. That is not dramatic language for a church moment. It is the daily shape of discipleship. Because Jesus is King, because He moved toward the cross on purpose, and because His mission is better than ours, surrender is not loss in the end. It is sanity. It is peace. It is life under the rule of the One who knows what He is doing. The songs in the service moved from opening praise to a closing declaration of Christ's reign. That arc is worth keeping through the week. We begin by beholding Jesus, and we keep responding by entrusting ourselves to Him.

Wholehearted devotion is not built in one emotional moment. It is formed one act of surrender at a time.

Reflect

- What is standing in the way of my total devotion to Christ right now?
- What would obedience look like this week if I stopped negotiating with Jesus?

Practice

Make one concrete commitment for this week. It should be clear, costly enough to matter, and simple enough to obey. Share it with someone who can pray for you.

Pray

Jesus, I lay down my terms, my delays, and my attempts to stay in control. Your will, not mine. Your ways, not mine. Teach me to follow You with no strings attached.

Notes