



Northland Christian Church Group Discussion Guide - Palm Sunday For the Week of March 28, 2021

Use the questions below as a springboard for discussion. Do not feel like you have to answer every question. These are intended to help spark discussion. Refer to as needed. Ultimately we want God's answers, not man's opinions. Always land where God lands. (ex: Where do we see that in the Bible?) Give grace. Give time for growth. Don't force it.

Baptisms on Easter

Check with your group to see who has not been baptized. If someone has not, ask them if they would like to discuss this for one of the Easter services.

Let someone on staff know if you have someone that would like to be baptized.
785-286-1204

Connect

- Describe a good gift that came into your life unexpectedly.

Engage the Scriptures - Read Matthew 21:1-10 with the group.

The Context

Palm Sunday:

The Jewish people during this time wanted nothing more than to be liberated from Roman rule. If there was ever a time of hope for liberation it was now. As Jesus enters Jerusalem, people are taking off their cloaks and putting them on the road as well as waving palm branches for this mighty prophet to ride in on which symbolically conveyed the notion of victory over one's enemy. This was it; their savior had arrived, and they greeted Jesus with the loud chants of, "Hosanna!" (Please save us) which would not have been an exclamation of praise, but a plea for salvation.

The crowd was correct in that Jesus was the long-awaited savior, but he was not the military leader they mistakenly hoped for. He didn't meet their expectations. Sunday Dave shared that: **God doesn't need to meet your expectations, you need to change your expectations to meet God.**

Jesus, our Savior, would save us from an adversary far greater than any political power—He would save us, once and for all, from sin and death. Jesus was becoming and is the King of kings and Lord of lords of an eternal Kingdom. The correct response then and now: **You need to get your hearts ready for the King.**

Discuss and Apply

1. What are some ways that Jesus has worked in your life that were surprising or unexpected?
2. Israel was expecting a military conqueror, yet the Lord gave us something far greater. In what ways have we misunderstood what God was doing in the moment only to receive an outcome far greater than what we hoped for or even thought we needed?
3. What are your thoughts regarding the truth that God doesn't need to meet your expectations, you need to change your expectations to meet God? How have you had to adjust your expectations of God in the past? Are there any areas where you need to do this now?
4. Hosanna means "please save us." What does it bring to your heart and mind to know that Christ has saved us from our greatest adversary? Share some specific struggles you could trust the Lord to save you from now.
5. What would it look like to accept Jesus as the King of your life? How is this different than just liking Jesus or wanting to be blessed?
6. Are there any areas that you are not letting Jesus be King over (have authority over)?
7. Jesus is the King despite the way the world looks right now. What questions does that bring up for you? What truths can you rely on at this time?
8. Who are you inviting to Easter Services?

End your group time in prayer.