



Small Group Study Guide for April 14, 2019

Our Savior Lutheran Church and School

Theme: Jesus rode into Jerusalem as a humble king to the cheers of the crowds. The scene was steeped in Old Testament prophecy, but the crowds had a very different understanding of what kind of king Jesus was. Always before Him was His mission – to go to the cross as the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

Getting Started:

1. How have you seen God at work in your life lately? Share your God-sightings.

In the Word: Read John 12:12-19

2. Which festival does it refer to in verse 12, and why were crowds coming to Jerusalem?
3. Does your Bible have a footnote for the meaning of the word “Hosanna” in verse 13?
4. What Old Testament passage were people reciting in verse 13? (“Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord” – check for a footnote)
5. The riding of the donkey was to fulfill the prophecy of **Zechariah 9:9** (verse 15). This image is also found in another part of the Old Testament. Look up **1 Kings 1:32-35**. How was the donkey/mule used in this instance, and how might it relate to Jesus' entrance on Palm Sunday?
6. **John 12:16** is an insight into the experience of the disciples as these events unfolded. They did not understand everything that was happening in the moment - it was not until later that they make the connection between the Scriptures (Old Testament) and what Jesus had done. What is meant by Jesus being “glorified” in verse 16? (see **John 13:31-32**)

In the Word: Read Philippians 2:5-11

7. What does verse 6 say about Jesus' divinity?

8. What nature did Jesus take when He came to earth?

9. Where did Jesus' humility lead him in verse 8?

10. What is Jesus' status now as stated in verse 9-11?

11. How is Jesus' humility a pattern for us to follow? (see again verse 5)

Pulling it all together

12. Do you think Christians are known for humility and gentleness? Why or why not?

13. Do you think Christians are known for sacrificial love for the good of others? Why or why not?

14. People have many perceptions of Jesus these days – and my misunderstandings and misconceptions. How might this Palm Sunday text help people gain a better understanding of who Jesus really is?

15. Have you invited anyone to the Easter Egg Hunt or Easter Sunday services?

Prayer: Ask the Lord to give us a clearer picture of our Savior's humility and sacrifice that brought us life and salvation, and to strengthen us for humble service in His name. Pray that many people might come to hear and know the message of hope this Holy Week and Easter Sunday.

Holy Week! Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday are considered one great service. For the full effect, attend all three! Be sure to invite friends and family, especially to the Easter Egg Hunt and Easter Sunday. We look forward to the greatest celebration of the church year!