



“Seat At The Table” - March 29, 2026

Sermon by Pastor Tom VanAntwerp

Group Leader Notes

Have you ever felt like your life has lost the plot? On Palm Sunday, Pastor Tom VanAntwerp (Wilmington Campus Pastor) walks through to remind us that while the world—and often our own lives—can drift off course, Jesus never lost sight of the story. As crowds shout “Hosanna” (Save us!) and Jesus enters Jerusalem, we see a powerful contrast: a world confused about what matters most, and a Savior who knows exactly why He came—to rescue, restore, and invite us back into relationship with God. At the center of this message is a beautiful truth: Prayer is not just something we do—it’s an invitation to take a seat at the table with God. If you’ve felt distracted, off-track, or distant from God, this message is an invitation to return—to slow down, pull up a chair, and rediscover the heart of faith through prayer.

Main Scripture Reading: Matthew 21:9-17

Group Discussion

Begin in prayer before reading and discussing the text.

1. **Pastor Tom talks about “losing the plot” of our lives.** What are some subtle ways people drift off track spiritually or personally without realizing it?
2. **Jesus clearly knew His purpose and mission.** What practical habits or rhythms (like prayer, Sabbath, or fasting) help you stay aligned with your purpose?
3. **In the temple, Jesus cleared out what was distracting people from God.** What “distractions” or barriers might be crowding out your connection with God today?
4. **Pastor Tom describes prayer as “taking a seat at the table with God.”** How does this image change or deepen your understanding of prayer?
5. **Pastor Tom tells a story where his grandmother asked him “Are people falling more deeply in love with Jesus?”** How would you answer that for your own life right now—and what might need to change?

Let’s Pray

https://youtu.be/_7Cju0U_Zm8?si=21c1UEclS6EixfoX

