



THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS LIKE

*Week 6 | The Corner Stone of the Kingdom | Teacher: Libin Abrahm
Sermon Questions for 3.29..2026*

OPENER

Palm Sunday feels like a celebration—crowds cheering, palm branches waving, and hope rising that a King has arrived, but beneath the celebration is tension. The same crowd that shouts “Hosanna” will soon cry “Crucify Him.”

Just after the triumphal entry, Jesus tells a final parable—a story that doesn’t just describe the Kingdom, but exposes the human heart. It reveals something sobering: we often want the blessings of God’s Kingdom without surrendering to the authority of the King. This parable invites us to examine our response to Jesus. Not just what we believe about Him but whether we are building our lives on Him.

READ

Matthew 21:33-46

MAIN POINTS

1. God Is the Faithful Owner Who Pursues His Vineyard

In the parable, the landowner carefully builds and entrusts his vineyard to tenants. This reflects God’s relationship with His people—He creates, provides, and entrusts responsibility. Even when the tenants rebel, the owner does not give up. He keeps sending servants, demonstrating God’s persistent pursuit of His people despite their rejection.

2. Humanity Repeatedly Rejects God’s Authority

The tenants reject the servants and ultimately kill the son, believing they can take ownership for themselves. This mirrors the story of Scripture and humanity: we resist God’s authority and attempt to rule life on our own terms. Sin is not just wrongdoing—it is trying to rule God’s world our way.

3. Jesus Is the Son Who Is Rejected but Central to God’s Plan

The shocking twist is that the son in the story represents Jesus Himself, and He is telling this parable to those who are about to reject and kill Him. Yet His rejection is not the end of the story. What appears to be defeat is actually the fulfillment of God’s redemptive plan.

4. Jesus Becomes the Cornerstone of the Kingdom

Jesus declares that “the stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.” The cornerstone is the foundation of everything. It determines the shape and direction of the entire structure. This means Jesus is not just part of our lives, but He is the one who defines and shapes everything. The Kingdom of God is built not on power or control, but on the cross of Christ.

5. The Kingdom Advances Through Surrender, Not Power

Unlike earthly kingdoms that advance through dominance and control, God’s Kingdom advances through sacrifice, humility, and self-giving love. The early church transformed the world not by seizing power, but by living lives shaped by the cross, marked by surrender, and resurrection power.

ENGAGE WITH GOD IN A GROUP

- What part of this sermon or parable stood out to you most, and why?
- The tenants in the story wanted the vineyard without the owner. Where do you see that same tendency in our culture or even in your own life?
- The sermon defines sin as “trying to rule God’s world our way.” How does that definition deepen your understanding of sin?
- Why do you think the religious leaders rejected Jesus, even though they recognized He was speaking about them?
- What does it practically mean for Jesus to be the **cornerstone** of your life rather than just a part of your life? Where in your life is it difficult to fully trust Jesus?
- The sermon contrasts two ways of advancing a kingdom: power/control vs. sacrifice/surrender. Why is the way of the cross so difficult for us to embrace? How do you “the church” struggling to embrace sacrifice?
- What is one area of your life where God may be inviting you to move from control to surrender?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus is the cornerstone of God’s Kingdom—rejected by many, but the foundation for all who choose to build their lives on Him through surrender and the way of the cross.