

Matthew 21:1–11

Sermon Discussion Guide

Icebreaker

Think about a time when something didn’t turn out the way you expected.

- What were you hoping would happen?
- How did you respond when things went differently?

Discussion Questions

1. **The Crowd’s Expectation (Matthew 21:8–9)**

The people shouted “Hosanna,” meaning “Save us now,” expecting Jesus to rescue them in a specific way.

- What do you think the crowd expected Jesus to do for them?
- In what ways do we sometimes expect Jesus to meet our needs on our terms

2. **The Kind of King Jesus Is (Matthew 21:5)**

Jesus entered Jerusalem on a donkey, showing humility and peace—not power and force.

- What does riding on a donkey reveal?
- Why is it sometimes difficult to trust a God who works differently than we expect?

3. **From Celebration to Disappointment**

The same crowd that shouted “Hosanna” would later cry “Crucify Him.”

- Why do you think people turned on Jesus so quickly?
- Have you ever felt disappointed with God? What caused that?

4. **The Deeper Work of Jesus (The Cross & Resurrection)**

Jesus didn’t come to fix temporary problems—He came to solve our deepest need.

- What is the difference between temporary relief and true salvation?
- How does the resurrection change the way we see our current struggles?

Takeaway

Palm Sunday reminds us that Jesus may not meet our expectations—but He always meets our deepest need.

Real hope isn’t fragile—it’s resurrected.