

JESUS

the Way — the Truth — the Life

A Journey Through the Gospel of John

IceBreaker: What coming-of-age story in a novel, film, or real life do you find compelling? What is it about the main character or the story that attracts you to them?

Introduction *(Read aloud before discussion.)*

This week, we are looking at the story of John Chapter 12, where we discover the King who walked into his calling.

Sermon Discussion *(Use as a guide for dialogue; let God lead, and read the verses aloud.)*

1. When the crowd welcomed Jesus into Jerusalem, what did they expect Him to do as their king?
2. Why do you think the people waved palm branches and shouted “Hosanna”? What did those actions symbolize for them?
3. It says the disciples did not understand these events at first. Why do you think it was difficult for them to grasp what Jesus was doing? Why is it hard for us to grasp what he’s doing in our lives?
4. “The crowd saw a parade... but Jesus saw the cross.” What does that statement reveal about the difference between the crowd’s expectations and Jesus’ mission?
5. How do the prophecies from the Book of Isaiah and the Book of Zechariah help us understand what Jesus was accomplishing in this moment? Does it deepen your faith in God’s plan or His sovereignty?
6. Is it significant that Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey rather than a warhorse? Do we still hold Jesus to the same expectation today?
7. Many people admired Jesus but did not truly follow Him. What is the difference between admiring Jesus and following Jesus?
8. The disciples understood God’s plan only after they obeyed. Have you experienced a time when understanding came after obedience in your faith?
9. Are we simply waving palms from the crowd, or are we following Jesus into the calling God has for us? What might it look like in your life to follow Jesus more fully right now?
10. How does the fact that Jesus knowingly walked toward the cross help your understanding of His love for you/us?