

Group Bible Study/Discussion:

1. Read Luke 19:28-44 & Philippians 2:5-11. What questions immediately come to mind? Are you so familiar with these texts that you have a hard time hearing them anew?
2. What's the significance of the unridden colt? (see Zech 9:9-10) Why is this important in light of the previous parable (19:11-27) & what is about to happen?
3. Why/How do they praise Jesus? Verse 38 is from Psalm 118:26. What are the implications of this in Jesus' mission in Jerusalem & the prophecy of Zechariah?
4. Describe the various reactions people have when they encounter Jesus in this context? How do you explain the differences in reaction? Does that seem similar to how people you know react to Jesus? If it's different, please explain.
5. The Pharisees tell Jesus to rebuke his disciples. Why? Jesus does not comply. Explain his reasoning. What do you think is the significance of this interaction?
6. What would happen if the disciples did stop? What does this say about creation's response to the truth & the Pharisees rejection? Read Ps 19:1-4 What do you see here?
7. What precisely have the people of Jerusalem (& by extension all of us) missed? Why are the consequences of that failure so dire? What is the only cure?
8. Luke says he wrote his gospel so his readers could be certain about what they had been taught (Lk 1:4). What kind of certainty can you glean from this passage?
9. Jesus foretells the complete destruction of the Temple & the sacking of Jerusalem by Rome. This happens about 40 years after this event. Why do you think Luke includes it here when the other gospel writers don't? How do you feel about this foreknowledge of Jesus? Do you believe he should have done something to prevent the slaughter he knows is coming? Why/Why not?
10. It is important to remember that within a week these same crowds will be calling for Jesus' crucifixion & mocking him as he dies. What does that say about human hearts & the untrustworthiness of human emotional adulation & praise? To what does Jesus call us that is deeper than emotional excitement?
11. How do you experience the tension between rejoicing in your salvation vs. compassion for the lost? Do we live out an urgency for the lost that live in our neighborhood or in our own families? Why or why not?

Living Water Fellowship

PALM SUNDAY

10th April 2022

COME TO JESUS

GATHERING SONGS: Our God and Here I am to Worship

RESPONSIVE PSALM (*Psalm 118 adapted verses*)

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;

His love endures forever.

The stone the builders rejected has become the cornerstone;

The Lord has done this, and it is marvellous in our eyes.

This is the day the Lord has made;

let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

From the house of the Lord we bless you!

The Lord is God and he has made his light shine upon us.

With boughs in hand, join in the festive procession to the altar.

You are my God, and I will give you thanks!

You are my God, and I will exalt you!

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever!

WELCOME:

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Gracious eternal God, let the power of your Spirit surround, sustain & excite us.

Transform our troubled lives to your glory. Perfect our worship for your praise.

We pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

GROW IN HIS GRACE

BIBLE READING: Luke 19:28-44

²⁸ After telling this story, Jesus went on toward Jerusalem, walking ahead of his disciples.

²⁹ As he came to the towns of Bethphage & Bethany on the Mount of Olives, he sent two disciples ahead. ³⁰ "Go into that village over there," he told them. "As you enter it, you will see a young donkey tied there that no one has ever ridden. Untie it & bring it here. ³¹ If anyone asks, 'Why are you untying that colt?' just say, 'The Lord needs it.'"

³² So they went & found the colt, just as Jesus had said. ³³ Sure enough, as they were untying it, the owners asked them, "Why are you untying that colt?" ³⁴ The disciples simply replied, "The Lord needs it." ³⁵ So they brought the colt to Jesus & threw their garments over it for him to ride on.

³⁶ As he rode along, the crowds spread out their garments on the road ahead of him.

³⁷ When he reached the place where the road started down the Mount of Olives, all of his followers began to shout & sing as they walked along, praising God for all the wonderful miracles they had seen.

³⁸ "Blessings on the King who comes in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven, & glory in highest heaven!"

³⁹ But some of the Pharisees among the crowd said, "Teacher, rebuke your followers for saying things like that!" ⁴⁰ Jesus replied, "If they kept quiet, the stones along the road would burst into cheers!"

⁴¹ But as he came closer to Jerusalem & saw the city ahead, he began to weep. ⁴² "How I wish today that you of all people would understand the way to peace. But now it is too late, & peace is hidden from your eyes. ⁴³ Before long your enemies will build ramparts against your walls & encircle you & close in on you from every side. ⁴⁴ They will crush you into the ground, & your children with you. Your enemies will not leave a single stone in place, because you did not recognize it when God visited you."

CHILDREN'S TIME

FAITH CHAT:

1. What are some things in our world that cause you to "weep"?
2. How do you understand your call to be the presence of Jesus in those places?

SONG: Who you say I am

THE MESSAGE: *UNCONVENTIONAL WARFARE: A PLAN OF HUMILITY*

PRAYERS:

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS:

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Seek the grace of Christ Jesus while it may be found, call upon him while he is near. Let us pray.

Because your words & deeds are perfection but our goodness is like soiled & torn clothing; **Lord have mercy.**

Because we become locked into mediocrity, stuck in complacency, having lost enthusiasm for the good news because the world & our friends knock back our witness to you; **Lord have mercy.**

Because from personal experience you, merciful Jesus, know how hard it is to be faithful when the future threatens pain or chaos; **Lord have mercy.**

Loving God, Saviour & Friend, forgive our sin & heal our fractured faith. Restore our abundant love & abounding hope. Restore among us the joy of salvation & the delight of life in your presence.

We pray for hands eager to serve you, wills keen to follow you, & minds open to the height, depth, length & breadth of your redeeming love.

Let this be, dear Lord, to us according to your saving will & word. Amen!

In Christ we are forgiven & restored to the Father! You are set free! You have no past to view with guilt. You have only a future filled with hope anticipating the fulfilment of all God's promises. **Amen!**

Words of Institution & The Lord's Prayer:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, & the glory are yours now & forever. Amen.

Worship during Communion: Jerusalem (City Alight)

GO IN HIS POWER

ADMONITION TO CHRISTLIKENESS: Philippians 2:5-11

You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had.

⁶ Though he was God, he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to.

⁷ Instead, he gave up his divine privileges; he took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being.

When he appeared in human form, ⁸ he humbled himself in obedience to God and died a criminal's death on a cross.

⁹ Therefore, God elevated him to the place of highest honour and gave him the name above all other names,

¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹ and every tongue declare that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

BLESSING:

**† _____, child of God, Christ humbled himself for your salvation.
Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

SONG: Cornerstone

SHOW HIS LOVE