

STUDY NOTES

HOLY WEEK 2019: PALM SUNDAY

a series at New City Church

www.newcityphx.com/sermons

The following content is based on the message "Palm Sunday: The Humble and Confrontational King" on 4/14/19 at New City Church in Phoenix, AZ. The following is not meant to be a full synopsis but rather a brief look at the main ideas. To use this Study Guide effectively you must listen to the message found at <http://www.newcityphx.com/sermons/>.

Leaders using these study notes for group study and reflection should read the Biblical text thoroughly before beginning, using this resource as assistance and not relying solely on this material for insight. We encourage all leaders to pray and ask the Spirit for revelation as they lead their respective community groups.

PRAYER

Pray and ask God to lead the discussion as everyone gets to share.

SCRIPTURE: MATTHEW 21:1-17

THE CONFUSING KING

Jesus had the power to calm storms, raise people from the dead, and heal diseases; however, in spite of that, he chose to ride into the city on a donkey. If a king rode into battle on a donkey, he would be killed. The type of king that Jesus is highlights Jesus's humility.

Palm Sunday announces a different kind of king for a different kind of battle for a different kind of kingdom.

- *What does Jesus's entrance into Jerusalem say to you about the kind of King that he is?*
- *What does Jesus's entrance into Jerusalem say to you about the kind of kingdom that Jesus ushered in?*

THE CONFRONTATIONAL KING

Jesus shows us that he is very humble, but he isn't afraid to confront the truth and reality. When he went into the temple, he found people using the religious system to take advantage of others and make a profit. Jesus teaches us, through this story, that you can't use the King.

Sin is the servant putting himself in the place of the King.

Salvation is the King putting himself in the place of the servant.

- *Why is it important to see the strength of Jesus in addition to his humility?*
- *How have you placed yourself in place of King Jesus over the last week?*

THE COMING KING

Palm Sunday shows us that Jesus demands a decision: "who is your King?" Jesus promises to return and make all things new. In order to be a part of that new creation, we must submit ourselves to Jesus as Lord. He didn't give up his life to change our circumstances, but to defeat our sin and give us eternal life with him.

Palm Sunday announces the arrival of the King we desperately need, not the king we selfishly want.

- *How do we try to use Jesus just to fix our circumstances? How have you done that?*
- *Why is Jesus's plan to defeat sin and build a new creation a better plan than changing your current circumstances?*
- *Why is it important to remember that Jesus is with you through your current circumstances?*
- *Pray for each other to allow Jesus into his rightful place in your life.*