

Jesus Is Lord Small Group Guide

Warm-up Question: (Choose one, make up your own, or skip this part all together, depending upon the nature of your group.)

1. Did you celebrate Easter growing up? If so, did your family have any Easter traditions?
2. What's the farthest you've ever walked in a day?

Read the following passage: Matthew 21:1-11, 14-22.

The events narrated in this passage took place on the Sunday before Jesus' crucifixion. The church now refers to this significant day as "Palm Sunday," because Jesus' crowd of disciples placed branches on the ground (palm branches, according to John 12:13) as He entered Jerusalem.

Questions for Discussion (Choose several that are relevant for your group):

1. What was the significance of Jesus entering Jerusalem on a donkey? Why did the crowds refer to Jesus as "the Son of David"? Why were the religious authorities angered by what was going on?
2. Explain how Jesus' response in Matthew 21:16 might be understood as an implicit claim to deity.
3. Read Matthew 22:41-46. Explain the argument Jesus is making. What is Jesus claiming about Himself?
4. How would you respond to the statement, "Jesus was a great religious and moral teacher, but He was not the divine Son of God"?
5. Why do you think Jesus cursed the fig tree?
6. Read Luke 6:46-49. How should we respond to the reality that Jesus is Lord? How do we know what Jesus wants us to do? What is misleading about statements such as, "Just be true to yourself," or "You've got to follow your heart"?
7. After cursing the fig tree, Jesus told His disciples that if they would have faith, they could do the impossible. What did Jesus mean by having faith? How do we grow in faith? Contrast biblical faith with the statement, "If you just have faith in yourself, you can do anything."
8. Do you have a regular habit of prayer? Explain.
9. What is one area in your life in which you think you could be more obedient to Jesus?

Pray