

“A Different Kind Of King”

Palm Sunday

Matthew 21:8-9

This study guide is intended to be used for personal study and within your community group to facilitate discussion.

Palm Sunday: The Triumphal Entry of Jesus. They wanted a king. They wanted a revolutionary. They wanted a war hero. Palm Sunday is the day Jesus defies the conventional wisdom of his day and the power structures of this world, and would begin to re-define how freedom and salvation would be achieved. Not through war horses, palm branches and swords; but through a cross.

- (1) On the 1st Palm Sunday, the crowd shouted for a revolution. They wanted a king who would be a radical revolutionary. Why were they ultimately disappointed?**
- (2) The lasting symbol of Christianity is neither a donkey or a palm branch; but rather, a cross! What made/makes the cross, an instrument of death, and specifically, Jesus’ death on a cross, such a scandalous thing?**
- (3) The cross is both the means and model of our salvation. What does this mean? Is there such a thing as a “way of the cross?” What kind of living describes this?**
- (4) What things make Jesus different, as compared to other earthly kings?**