

PREACHING CURRICULUM

The Claimant

Matthew 21:1-17

"Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"

1 REVIEW THE SERMON

LEADER NOTES: Encourage your members to pull out their notes and review the main points of the sermon. (9-12 mins)

Read Matthew 21:1-7. Why did Jesus send His disciples to borrow the donkey and the colt without first asking permission of the owner?

What statement was Jesus making by riding into Jerusalem on a donkey? What was He claiming about Himself by doing this?

Read Matthew 21:8-11. Why was the crowd so excited that Jesus had arrived in the city? What were they saying about Jesus by the act of spreading cloaks and palm branches on the road in front of Him?

Read Matthew 21:12-13. What was it about the situation in the Temple which prompted Jesus to respond with such anger?

Read Matthew 21:14-17. Why did Jesus think it was perfectly appropriate for the people to honour Him as they did? What was ironic about who was giving Him honour in this circumstance?

2 ASSESS YOUR LIFE

LEADER NOTES: Evaluate the condition of your lives in relation to the truth from God's Word. Encourage heart examination. (12-15 mins)

What is your basic attitude toward everything you have, including your time, money, possessions, and relationships? Ultimately, who do these things belong to?

Reflect on Jesus' cleansing of the Temple in verses 12-13. Have you encountered any situations which are similar to the one in the Temple which prompted the angry response from Jesus? If so, what was the situation like, and what was your response to it?

How highly do you esteem and honour Jesus? What does that look like in your life?

3 APPLY THE TRUTH

LEADER NOTES: Create a list of ways to close the gap between your lives and the truth of the Bible. Be practical and intentional. (12-15 mins)

Why is Jesus worthy to be honoured as the King? What sort of King is He, and how is He different from the kings of the world?

What would our lives look like if we truly believed that everything we have belongs to Jesus? How would that belief impact the way we handled our time, our finances, our relationships, our hobbies, our career goals, and everything else in our lives?

How might we avoid engaging in false forms of worship, such as the one Jesus was angry about in today's passage?

4 COMMIT THIS WEEK

LEADER NOTES: Call your small group members to make a commitment and get the group working together to follow-up with each other. (9-12)

What implications does Jesus' kingship have for our lives today? How might we live under His rule and authority and properly honour Him as king? What would it look like to put that into practice this week?