

Sermon notes for Growth Groups



Title: King on a Donkey - Palm Sunday

2 April, 2023

Intro questions:

What is a symbol?

What are some significant symbols in our culture? (items related to sport, politics, revolution, freedom, etc?)

What are modern day symbols for power? Humility? Sacrifice? Love?

Key passages:

John 12:12-19

Zechariah 9:9

Psalms 118

Exodus 12

Main points to consider:

- Palm Sunday falls on the Passover Festival, where symbols of kingship & sacrifice from key passages fill the hopes of an oppressed people

- Jesus' entry on a donkey colt symbolised kingly hopes, but Jesus reshapes hopes as he humbly serves as the suffering servant king & sacrificial passover lamb

Discussion questions:

Biblical hospitality is the practice of welcoming strangers to provide care that moves them toward friendship.

- Do bullies, unjust rulers, and selfish gods make good friends?
- How do the attitudes & actions of Jesus in being a humble king who sacrifices himself for others demonstrate hospitality?
- Our ideas of God - Father, Son & Holy Spirit - are continually challenged. Our actions also reveal the shape of our belief. How might Jesus' actions move us to a deeper friendship with God?