



Sermon Discussion Questions

Sunday, April 1, 2012

Mike Moses - Huntersville

Michael Flake - Davidson

Palm Sunday

Scripture: Matthew 21:1-11

Introduce it: Begin thinking about the sermon

Think about being a King or Queen. Share as a group what you would love most about this? What do you imagine would be the hardest thing about being a King or Queen? What do people want from you?

Revisit it: Look back at the passages taught

Read Matthew 21:1-11

This passage marks the ending chapter of Jesus' time on earth. He is getting ready to become the ultimate sacrifice.

Before doing that, he is purposeful to destroy the image that people have of a King.

During that time, people were looking for a Messiah (Savior). The word Hosanna means, "Please Save us." What were they hoping this savior would do? What would he look like and how he would enter his reign?

**Leader: they wanted the savior to overthrow the Roman government and make Israel the rulers. They thought he would come riding in on a white horse, destroying all that got in his way.*

In what ways does this scene destroy the image they have and call into question as to if Jesus is the messiah?

*riding in on a horse (a borrowed horse). riding in to be sacrificed and not to sacrifice.

Galatians 4:4 tells us that when the time was right, God sent his son. What were the two greatest powers during that time that people wanted freedom from? Which did Jesus come to free us from?

*the first was the power of the Roman Government. The second was the power of the Religious Government (The Pharisees). He did not come to free us from either. He came to free us from our slavery to sin. Our sin is far greater of a ruler than the Roman Government or Religious government. The Law simply revealed our sin and shows us that sin has power over us--in fact we are slaves to it before Christ. When people were looking for Jesus to free them from these 2 powers, Jesus was showing that there is a far greater power over us--sin. (Read Romans 6:17-18).

Jesus walked by many people and did not heal them or save them. He did not come to save the people from Roman or Pharisaic authority. What was the bigger picture for Jesus that allowed him to pass over the individual wants?

*he was about saving the world from sin, not individuals only. God is about something far greater than just what we see our individual selves needing.

What are all the names/descriptions of Jesus in this passage? What is significant about each?

*Lord (vs 3)-Spiritually over all; King (vs5)-Governmentally over all; Son of David: from whom the Messiah would come; Prophet: some still didn't recognize him as Savior.

Use It: Don't just learn the passage-apply it

Be honest with the group about what you look forward to Jesus saving you/the world from. Which of these are you learning are good and right and which are you learning may be selfish?

What are bigger things that you see God doing around you that he invites you to be a part of even when they are not about you? In what ways is God convicting you to jump in?

Who are people/circumstances/situations that you pray God would bring salvation to? In what ways has the death and resurrection of Jesus already done this and you can proclaim that salvation?

What are false images of Savior/King that you need to confess to God that you have and ask him to change this image?

Remember It: Memorize the verse

Memorize Galatians 4:4, "But when the time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law, to redeem those under the law, that we might receive the full rights of sons."

Teach this verse to your children and help them to see that they are God's children, not his slaves.