

Kanye is Right: Jesus is King! | Matthew 21:1-11, 27:27-37 **Sermon Discussion Participant's Guide**

Purpose of Discussion: To express our allegiance to King Jesus by submitting one area of our lives to him in a practical way.

Icebreaker: What is one thing you doing to stay sane during this “stay at home” time?

Discussion:

1. Read Matthew 21:1-11 out loud.

As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples,² saying to them, “Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. ³ If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away.”

⁴This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet:

⁵“Say to Daughter Zion,
‘See, your king comes to you,
gentle and riding on a donkey,
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.’”

⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. ⁷They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. ⁸A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted,

“Hosanna to the Son of David!”

“Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”

“Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

¹⁰When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, “Who is this?”

¹¹The crowds answered, “This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee.”

2. We have often missed just how political Jesus’ Palm Sunday entry into Jerusalem really was. Which details in this passage show that Jesus was trying to make a political statement?
3. Much of our resistance to the idea of a king reigning over us comes from the history of corrupt political leaders. What qualities make a king (or any political leader) corrupt?

4. The gospels are trying to help us see that Jesus is a different kind of king, a king that is incredibly good for our world and for our lives. Take turns reading the following passages and then discuss: What are some of the qualities of King Jesus that make him different, good, and worthy to follow?

Matthew 4:23

Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and healing every disease and sickness among the people.

Matthew 11:28-30

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

Jeremiah 23:5

“The days are coming,” declares the Lord, “when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, a King who will reign wisely and do what is just and right in the land.

Mark 10:45

For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

5. How have you personally experienced some of these good qualities of King Jesus in your life?
6. Jesus entering Jerusalem as King was a threat to Caesar at the time and continues to challenge political loyalties and agendas ever since. Given that we are presently in an election season, what are some political implications of Jesus being our ultimate king?
7. Keith referenced the story in the Chicago Tribune of Kevin Baugh, the micro-nationalist who set up his home and property as the “Republic of Molossia” in order to have a “kingdom of me.” The reality is that each of us have a tendency to build a “kingdom of me.” How can you see this tendency in your own life?
8. When we see Jesus for who he really is, the King of all Kings, we realize that a regime change must take place in our lives. What’s one area of your life that you need to allow Jesus to set up his kingly regime over? What would that look like practically this week?

Sharing and Prayer:

Take turns sharing: How are you and your family being affected by the pandemic at this point?

If you have enough time, pray for each other and trust each other’s needs to the powerful, wise, and loving care of King Jesus.