

# Discussion Questions: The King We Didn't Expect

Matthew 21:1-11 | Isaiah 50:4-9 | Philippians 2:5-11

## 1. Opening

What stood out to you most from the message this week?

## 2. Understanding the Text

- Why do you think Jesus intentionally chose to enter Jerusalem on a **donkey** instead of something more impressive?
- What clues in the passage show that this moment was **intentional and connected to prophecy**, not random?
- Why do you think Matthew makes a point to mention the **fulfillment of Scripture** in this scene?
- What do the crowd's actions (spreading cloaks, waving branches, shouting "Hosanna") tell us about what they believed Jesus was coming to do?
- How does knowing that "Hosanna" means "**Save us**" change the way you understand what the crowd is saying?

## 3. The Big Idea

**"Jesus is King, but not the kind of king we usually expect."**

Where do you see that being true most clearly?

## 4. The Crowd's Expectation

The crowd cried "Hosanna" ("Save us!"), but misunderstood how Jesus would save. Where do people today still expect Jesus to work on **their terms**?

## 5. Personal Reflection

Where are you most tempted to want Jesus to:

- fix things quickly,
- protect your comfort,
- or align with your preferences?

## 6. Following vs. Admiring

Why is it often easier to **admire Jesus** than to actually **follow Him**?

## 7. The Way of the King

Philippians 2 shows Jesus reigning through humility, service, and obedience. Which of those is hardest for you right now? Why?

## 8. Power and Kingdom Thinking

How does Jesus' way of being King challenge the way our culture defines:

- power,
- success,
- or winning?

## 9. Holy Week Focus

What would it look like for you to **slow down and walk with Jesus** this week instead of rushing to Easter?

## 10. Personal Response

What is one way you can respond this week to Jesus as King, not just in words, but in action?

## Closing Reflection

Sit with this question:

**Will I welcome Jesus only when He fits my expectations... or will I follow Him as He really is?**