

# MARK

## READ ALOUD: MARK 11:1-11

### Pursue

In our text this week, Mark 11:1-11, we see Jesus finally enter Jerusalem. To its original hearers, this story would have made them think of the countless emperors and leaders who entered cities with grand displays of their wealth, power, and war-like might. (This is a cheesy example but think of “Prince Ali’s” entrance in Disney’s Aladin but less cute and more fearsome to behold.) However, in contrast, we see Jesus, the very Son of God wrapped in flesh, enter into his kingdom on a donkey. Like the cultural displays of that time helped people understand who a king is and how he will lead, Jesus’s entrance into Jerusalem helps us understand who He is and how He will lead.

We see in Mark 11:1-11 that Jesus is the **TRUE SERVANT KING OF PEACE**.

#### Jesus is the TRUE King!

As Jesus rides into Jerusalem on a colt - a young donkey - Jesus fulfills Old Testament prophecies about the coming messiah king like Zechariah 9:9 that says,

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!  
Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem!  
Behold, your king is coming to you;  
righteous and having salvation is he,  
humble and mounted on a donkey,  
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

Jesus is the only one able to fulfill these prophecies and therefore the only TRUE king and messiah.

- **Jesus proves again that he is the only one who can save. In what areas of life are you tempted to believe or behave as if there is another way of salvation outside of Jesus?**

#### Jesus is the SERVANT King!

Throughout the OT when rulers wanted to present themselves as servants of the people, they rode donkeys (Judges 10:4; 12:14). Donkeys were work animals intended to serve people. By riding in on a donkey Jesus was showing to the people what he had just stated in Mark 10:45.

- **How does thinking of Christ as our Servant King shape how you approach him?**
- **As you navigate the spaces that God has placed you in (home, work, parenting, relationships, etc.), do you enter in ready to serve or be served? How could you reflect the heart of Christ more in these spaces?**

#### Jesus is the King of PEACE!

Like previously stated, kings or rulers would arrive in cities and put their power, authority, and wealth on display so that people might fear them. However, when a king or ruler rode into a town on a donkey it was a display of peace, rather than war. Jesus is showing the people that his way is the way of true peace - peace with God.

- **Read Isaiah 53:5 and Ephesians 2:14. Because of our flesh and the attacks of the enemy, we can often forget or doubt the peace we have with God in Christ. Is there an area of life in which it is difficult to believe that Jesus has “made peace” with God for you?**

### Practice

#### Rejoice with One Another

Jesus is the TRUE SERVANT KING OF PEACE! Spend time as a group praying prayers of praise and thanksgiving for Jesus. Consider reading a Psalm of Praise, or if someone in your group wants to lead a song, sing together, praising and thanking God for sending Jesus to make a way for peace with Him!

## **Proclaim**

We are instruments of God's mercy placed in the neighborhoods, coffee shops, gyms, etc. we find ourselves in. Take time as a group to pray and consider how you might celebrate Jesus and share with someone in your life how thankful you are for his work on the cross and in your life.