

SERMON APPLICATION GUIDE

JOHN 12:12-36a

DISCUSSION 1: The King on a Colt (vs.12-19)

1. Who do the crowds think Jesus is? What were they expecting Jesus to do? What in the text helps you to understand the crowd's expectations?
2. What was the purpose for Jesus riding into Jerusalem on a colt rather than a war horse? What does Zechariah 9:9-13 tell us about the coming Messiah?
3. How is Jesus a better King than any of the Israelites waving palm branches could fathom?
4. Why were the Pharisees so exasperated by the popularity of Jesus? How ought we to examine ourselves and our hearts in light of their response to Jesus?

DISCUSSION 2: The King for All Nations (vs. 20-26)

1. What is so significant about two Greeks requesting to see Jesus such an important moment John's gospel?
2. Jesus has alluded to his "hour" throughout the gospel (2:4; 4:21,23; 7:30; 8:20). What does this hour signify? What does it mean for the Son of Man to be glorified?
3. How should we understand Jesus' metaphor in vs. 24? How does it apply to Jesus? How does it apply to following Jesus?
4. What does it look like to lose your life for the sake of Jesus? What are the characteristics of a life lived for the present and one lived eternity in mind? What are ways you are tempted to live for yourself rather than for Jesus?
5. Who do you look up to that is completely sold out for Jesus? What in their life tells you that Jesus is worth more than anything?

DISCUSSION 3: The King Lifted Up (vs. 27-36a)

1. Jesus tells us that his soul is troubled in vs 27. What is troubling to Jesus? How does this prayer mirror Jesus' prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane (Luke 22:42)? What motivates Jesus to continue with the plan of God?
2. How does God the Father respond to Jesus' prayer?
3. According to this passage, what will Jesus work on the cross accomplish and what are the implications for us today?
4. How might this passage of Scripture fuel global missions in our church?

FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP QUESTIONS

1. The crowd on Palm Sunday cries out "Hosanna!" which means "save us!" What does Jesus save us from?
2. Who did Jesus come to save? What did he save us from and how did he do it?
3. Why is it better to serve Jesus rather than ourselves? How can you serve Jesus today?