

DISCUSSION 1

The one who rightfully deserves praise (vv. 12-13)

1. What are some things that led the crowd to believe that Jesus was the Messiah?
2. According to verse 13, what does it mean that Jesus is the “King of Israel?” How do we, as Gentiles, fit into this reality of Jesus being the King of Israel?
3. We know that people are praising Jesus as King at this point in John, but most of those same people eventually demand his crucifixion. What makes someone who once accepted Jesus as King eventually reject him? Do you know someone who has walked away from Christianity? If so, share about this with the group.

DISCUSSION 2

As it is written (vv. 14-19)

1. Read Zechariah 9:9-13. What does this passage reveal about the Messiah to come?
2. Jesus riding on a donkey highlights his humility. What are some things we can take away from this in our own lives? How are some ways you can humbly serve others?
3. The Pharisees rejected Jesus even though he fulfilled many Scriptures before their eyes. Why were they angry with Jesus, according to verse 19? What are some ways they chose pride instead of humility?

DISCUSSION 3

Death brings life (vv. 20-26)

1. Read verses 20-26. What does Jesus mean when he says that he will be glorified (v. 23)?
2. What does Jesus mean that we must lose our life in order to find it? How have you seen this to be true in your Christian walk?
3. Can someone be a follower of Jesus without obeying his commandments? Why or why not?

FAMILY DISCIPLESHIP QUESTIONS

1. Jesus fulfilled the Scriptures by riding on a donkey. This was a humble act for a king. Talk about humility as a family. What are some ways your family can grow in humility?
2. Jesus says we must lose our life in order to find it. What does this mean? Give an example of something you can give up to grow closer to Jesus.
3. Read verse 26 from this week's passage. What does Jesus say will happen if we serve him? How does this motivate you to serve Jesus in every part of your life?

APPLICATION

- Jesus says that we are called to lose our lives in order to find them. This happens at the beginning of our faith, but it is also a daily choice of every believer. This week, pray about areas in your life that you need to give up or change in order to grow in your relationship with Jesus. Find someone to hold you accountable.
- Consider reading *Gospel Deeps* by Jared Wilson to grow your understanding of the gospel.