



Bible Study Questions

13th April 2025 – John 12:12-19

Discussion Starter

Have you ever experienced something exciting that didn't turn out how you expected? How did you respond?

Introduction

On Palm Sunday, we remember Jesus' triumphant yet humble entry into Jerusalem. As He rode in on a donkey, the crowds waved palm branches and shouted "Hosanna!" in an outpouring of hope and excitement. This day not only marks the fulfilment of prophecy (see Zechariah 9:9) but also challenges us to rethink our expectations of what it means for Jesus to be our King and Saviour. His arrival wasn't about worldly power, but a quiet, sacrificial love that would soon lead Him to the cross.

Read John 12:1-19

What stands out to you, or what do you notice?

What questions are raised for you?

What challenges you?

Questions

1. Context and Imagery: What struck you most about the way the crowds welcomed Jesus into Jerusalem? How did the waving of palm branches and shouts of "Hosanna" set the scene?
2. Symbolism of the Donkey: Why do you think Jesus chose a donkey instead of a horse for His entry (consider Zechariah 9:9)? What might this say about the kind of King He came to be?
3. Expectations v Reality: The crowd shouted "Hosanna" expecting a military deliverer. In what ways did their hopes differ from the salvation Jesus actually brought?
4. Personal Perspective: In your own life, have you ever misinterpreted what Jesus wants to do for you—expecting a "comfortable" answer rather than the challenging transformation He offers?
5. Crowd's Reaction: Reflect on how quickly the enthusiasm of the crowd turned to rejection once their expectations were not met. What does this teach us about our own faith and expectations of Jesus?

Application

Deeper Reflection: How can knowing that Jesus willingly underwent suffering (as foreshadowed on Palm Sunday and fulfilled at the cross) change the way you approach difficulties in your own life?

Living as Followers of the King: If we truly accept that Jesus is our King and Saviour—who came in humility and sacrificed Himself for us—what practical changes should we make in how we respond to life's challenges and disappointments?

