

# PALM SUNDAY

## NO OTHER KING

2023-04-02

## Participant Notes

### **OVERVIEW:**

Welcome to our study, “No Other King.” When Jesus rode into Jerusalem on the back of a donkey the crowds who greeted him were looking for a king. They had expectations of what kind of king he would be. Many people that day hoped Jesus would be a warrior king, one who would conquer their Roman oppressors and set them free. But Jesus was a different kind of king. The palm branch waving crowd that day were blinded by their expectations of the Messiah. The same can happen for us. Our hopes for who Jesus will be in our lives can easily be distorted by our expectations of him. What kind of king is Jesus to you? Is your view of him accurate? Allow today’s study to sharpen your focus on Jesus, our king who came to give his life on the cross for you.

### **ICEBREAKER:** My Easter Memories

What was the Easter season like for you growing up? Is there a key memory or two that you have of your experience of Easter as a child? What part, if any, did Jesus have in your early years of Easter? Share your story with the group!

## STUDY:

13 Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, saying: "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power, for ever and ever!"

Revelation 5:13 NIV

### **READ:** Mark 11:1-11 The Triumphal Entry

Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem took place on Palm Sunday, a week before his resurrection. His triumphal entry marked the beginning of what is often called the "passion week", 7 days of intense ministry culminating with his death on the cross and rising from the grave 3 days later.

1. Read back through the scene of the crowd's response to Jesus. (vs. 8-10). Try to put yourself in the scene. What would it have been like to be there?
2. When Jesus rode into Jerusalem, the crowds shouted, "Hosanna"! (Lord, please save us!). What do you think the people were expecting of Jesus?
3. We might say that the crowds that day were actually blinded by their palm branches. Why might that be true?
4. Why is it so easy to be blinded about the kind of king Jesus really is? In what ways do you see this happening today?
5. What are the palm branches for you? In other words, what about your perception of Jesus might be blinding you about who he really is?

### **READ:** Philippians 2:5-11 Our Servant King

This passage is likely a hymn sung by the early church, a reminder to them and to us of what our king gave up to live among us and his exalted position in heaven today.

6. What do you notice about Jesus' position before he came to earth?
7. What does this passage tell us about what he gave up while he was here on earth?
8. What does this passage tell us about Jesus' position now?

9. How does reading about our servant King inspire you to be like him?

**READ:** Ephesians 1:18-23 Jesus Our King

18 I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, 19 and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength 20 he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, 21 far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come. 22 And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, 23 which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

10. What do you notice here about the authority Jesus has as king?

11. What does this kingly authority mean for the church today?

12. How does today's study help your resolve to have no other king but Jesus?

**PRAY:**

Listen to the song - No Other King <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iSqPcZzTRDE>

Spend some time today worshiping King Jesus for what he has done for you by dying on the cross.

Ask him to sharpen your vision to see him more fully as your king.