



April 10, 2022 | Mill Run Campus and Lytham Road Campus  
Jesus Comes to Jerusalem as King (John 12:12-27)

## QUESTIONS FOR SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION AND PERSONAL REFLECTION:

The story of Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem is full of seeming contradictions. He's going to Jerusalem as if to become king. He's also going to Jerusalem to die. How is that possible? He's riding into Jerusalem on Passover to be sacrificed along with the Passover lambs. But the crowds welcomed him with palm branches, as if it were Hanukah and he would lead the revolution. What on earth is going on... for heaven's sake? Jesus offers an answer that requires reflection: "Unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains a single seed, but if it dies, it will bear much fruit." Read John 12:12-27 for the whole story.

1. The people of Jerusalem gave Jesus a king's welcome. What kind of expectations do you think they had? Were they wrong?
2. Jesus accepts their royal welcome. In fact, he's the one who set the expectation in the first place. But he had to change their idea of success. He says he is going to Jerusalem to be king and also to be killed. Can you think of a time where Jesus had to change your definition of success? What did you learn?
3. It can be hard to let go of the things to which we have become attached. But even good seeds have to fall into the ground and die for God to turn them into fruit...and more seeds! Have you seen this happen in your life? Have you had to let go of something - maybe even let it die, so to speak - without knowing how or when God might turn it into fruit? What was that experience like? How might God be challenging you or comforting you with this truth now?
4. To apply this truth most literally and most extremely means to think of our own life and literal death. What if God has intentions for fruitfulness in your life that go beyond the end of your earthly years? If God does his best work by death and resurrection, how does that affect the way you think about your own life and death?

## DAILY WORSHIP - BIBLE READINGS:

### JESUS COMES TO JERUSALEM

April 10 | John 12:12-27

April 14 | John 19:1-15

April 11 | Zachariah 9:9-12

April 15 | John 19:16-24

April 12 | Hebrews 1:1-12

April 16 | John 19:28-42

April 13 | 1 Timothy 6:12-16