

PALM SUNDAY

Mark 11:1-18

MAIN IDEAS FROM THIS WEEK

1. THE INCLUSIVE NATURE OF HIS KINGDOM
2. THE EXCLUSIVE NATURE OF HIS KINGDOM
3. HOW IT CAN BE BOTH

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS – Pick one or two of these to talk about as a group

1. What stood out to you most from this week's message? Why?
2. In Mark 11 we see Jesus entering into Jerusalem as King. But there are several aspects of this episode from Jesus' life that seem so paradoxical (i.e. the King of the universe riding a donkey). What are some other aspects of God's Kingdom that seem backwards or upside down to your normal way of thinking?
3. You can learn a lot about someone by what makes them angry. What makes you angry? What makes Jesus angry in Mark 11?
4. The Jewish religious leaders had taken the temple from something that was supposed to be about God and for everyone and they had turned it into something that was all about them and for them. What are some ways that we Christians do this with our churches today? What would it look like for us to be as passionate as Jesus about including outsiders?
5. Jesus behavior in the temple shows that He is passionate about removing all barriers that would keep people from and a life-giving relationship with Himself. What barriers did God remove in order to bring you to Himself?
6. As strange as it may sound, it is the exclusive truth of salvation being by grace alone, through faith alone in Christ alone that actually makes Christianity so inclusive. This is because grace levels the playing field. What is it about the grace of Jesus that puts all people on the same level?
7. **PRAY:** Spend time as a group praying that God would make us into a local church who embodies the paradoxical nature of His kingdom. That we would hold fast to the exclusive truth of God's word AND that we would lay aside our preferences and do everything within our power to include the outsider.

A TRUTH TO TAKE WITH YOU: Christianity says, "all fall short, all are welcome and Jesus is the only way."