

Sermon Notes:

Passage: Mark 11:1-11

Jesus life 2000 years ago was filled with unmet expectations from others.

- They wanted Jesus to change the political landscape.
- They wanted Jesus to change their immediate circumstances.
- They wanted Jesus to eradicate the evil around them that they saw and considered to be evil

This story is often times called “The Triumphal Entry”. It represented Jesus one time coming into the capital city of Israel openly declaring His Messiah’ship and openly declaring His kingship. It could be seen as a political campaign.

From a Jewish perspective this was His declaration of kingship.

Passage: Zechariah 9:9

They waved palm branches. This doesn’t mean much to us today, but it meant something to them then.

In ancient times, palm branches symbolized goodness, well-being, victory and celebration.

Hossana means save us now! They were looking for Jesus to save them from there circumstances, but their expectations were very much unmet.

God often times does not meet our expectations

If we are honest with ourselves many of us would have unmet expectations of God.

God looks at the end game, when we typically look at the now.

Jesus chose the road of suffering because of that end game.

Can you see the end game of your actions and choices?

Passage: Hebrews 12:1-3

Passage: Luke 19:41-44

Jesus predicted the destruction of Jerusalem because they did not recognize the God given gift he was offering them.

They wanted to do it their own way and less than 40 years later this exact prophecy of Jesus was fulfilled.

Can you recognize the time of God’s visitation in your life?

Life Group Discussion

(feel free to use any or all of these questions)

Warm Up:

1. Describe to the group something you have experienced that was a disappointment or an unmet expectation.

Study & Discussion:

Read together: Luke 19:29-40

As this scene is playing out Jesus followers are watching Jesus fulfill prophecies they are all very aware of (Zech.9:9). What do you think they were thinking and feeling at that time?

Knowing what comes a couple of days later, how did their feelings change?

Have you had a life experience where God just didn't live up to your expectation at that moment?

The understanding of the disciples changed drastically after Easter Sunday. Has your perspective on that experience changed after some time has passed? In what ways?

Read together Hebrews 12:1-2

Jesus resisted the ability to take what was immediate to endure hardship for what was in the future, but eternal.

What temptations do you deal with that are in the now and immediate, but might be a compromise for something that is in the future, healthier or more eternal in scope?

Prayer:

1. What is something you could use prayer for right now?
2. Is there someone outside the group you would like prayer for?