Mark 11:1-11 – Each year we remember the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. In this message, Tim Coles explored some of the unique instructions that Jesus gave to his disciples which would become faith markers for them. The disciples would look back and realize that Jesus was not a victim of circumstance, but sovereign over his own fate.

Getting Discussion Started:

- Unmet expectation can be one of the biggest obstacles to our faith. Describe a time when you expected something to happen one way … and it went the complete opposite. How did you react?

Digging Deeper:

Read **Mark 11:1-11**

- Verse eleven concludes by telling us that Jesus rode into Jerusalem triumphantly, looked around at everything, and then left. Have you ever noticed this? Does it ever feel like God is simply observing your life, but not acting to bring about the change you desire?
- The next day, Jesus entered the temple and began to turn over the tables. Tim mentioned that this act was more than just a holy anger response, Jesus was purposefully stirring up the religious leaders to bring about the events that would lead to his death. Jesus would ultimately be put to death at the same time as the Paschal lamb which was being offered by the priests for the sins of the people.
- Discuss how these small details demonstrates Jesus' intention to die?

Read **Mark 14:13-15**

- The disciples would one day remember the detailed instructions Jesus gave them concerning the upper room and the colt and realize that "Jesus was never a victim of circumstance but completely sovereign over his fate." These seemingly insignificant details that the disciples meticulously wrote down would serve as **faith markers** in their lives and examples for us that God is in control of even the smallest details. As you look back on your own life, can you think of any faith markers (moments when God demonstrated sovereignty and control) in your own life that you can share with your group? Encourage one another with stories of God's faithfulness by sharing your faith markers.
- Tim said that when our expectations are unmet, we often live in discontentment. The antidote for this is to surrender our unmet expectations to him. He owes us nothing for he is Lord. What unmet expectation must you surrender to Christ this Easter?
- PRAY