

BEHOLD YOUR KING COMES
Next Steps Devotional Guide — John 12:12-29
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Sermon Series > The Gospel of John
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1. When is a time in your life when you were given some fake information or you passed it on? What happened?
2. Read John 11:55-57 and John 12:12 in your Bible. Why do you think John gives us these passages? You were given a table of Jesus' last week. How do you think this aligns with Jesus' words in Matthew 5:17 in your sermon notes?
3. We look at four conditions of Jesus' heart in this passage today. First, Jesus had a broken heart. Take your Bible and read Luke 19:41-44 for this. Though John does not specifically mention this, he alludes to it. To John, what was important was proving Jesus' Deity and His mission in spite of Him having a broken heart. Jesus knew what was coming for Him — their rejection as Him as the Messiah as well as what the Roman Emperor Titus would do to Israel and Jerusalem between 79-81 AD. — total destruction.
 - (a) It stills breaks Jesus' heart today when people reject Him. Why do you think so many people reject Jesus today?
 - (b) Take your Bible and read John 12:12-13. As the people waved palm branches and shouted "Hosanna," — "save us," they were repeating Psalm 118:25-26. You can read this in your sermon notes. But they changed it in John's Gospel. They added something to it — "even the King of Israel." Palm branches were waved when a ruler made entry into a city. The 3 million Jews who have come to celebrate Passover want a military and political Messiah. Why do you think they did not understand the Old Testament prophecies about the kind of Messiah that Jesus would be?
 - (c) Read Revelation 7:9 in your sermon notes. How does this relate to you in comparison to our text?
 - (d) Does your heart break over the number of lost people who reject Jesus Christ for whatever reasons they do? Does your heart weep knowing so many people are dying and going to hell?
4. Second, we learned Jesus had a humble and obedient heart. Take your Bible and read John 12:14-15.
 - (a) Kings, rulers and military leaders did not enter a city on a donkey, but typically a white stallion. Jesus had already prearranged for this in Matthew 21:1-7. Take your Bible and read this. Why do you think Jesus chose a donkey and how to you think the people would have seen this?
 - (b) Jesus was fulfilling the prophecy about the Messiah in Zechariah 9:9. This was written some 500 years earlier. How does this help you with the integrity and validity of Scripture?
 - (c) What gets your attention? Is it the shouting voice of the crowd or the still-small voice of God?
 - (d) When you come into your greatest days of triumph and success, will your attitudes and actions say, "Look at me or look at God?"
 - (e) You were given 3 Old Testament examples of those who refused to say, "Look at me." Instead each one said, "Look at God" — Moses, Joseph and Daniel. Read each of the passages for each one. When you are out in public, do you give God all the credit for everything? Why or why not?
 - (f) We read in John 12:20-22 some Greeks came to Philip who came to Andrew who wanted to see Jesus. What is the significance of this?
 - (g) These Greeks come first to Philip to have an audience with Jesus because they feel comfortable since Philip is a Greek name. Then Philip took their request to Andrew. Do you know what this tells me? God is arranging events in your life for people to interrupt your time and day so that you can take them to Jesus. When has this occurred to you and did you do it?
5. Third, we learned that Jesus had a sacrificial heart. .
 - (a) Read John 12:23-26 in your Bible. Why did Jesus use this analogy of a grain of wheat falling into the earth and dying? How is this a great analogy and how could you use to help someone else?
 - (b) Read 1 Corinthians 15:36, 42-44 in your sermon notes. The Apostle Paul draws the same analogy in a different way. How is this encouraging to you?
 - (c) Jesus made three sub-points in John 12:23-26. In what ways does the Lord see you living out these 3 sub-points today?
 - (d) Read Luke 9:23-25 in your sermon outline. Jesus used the illustration of crucifixion to make His point. Rome one time crucified 6,000 people over a 120 mile main highway from the Roman city of

Capua to the capital, Rome. If you traveled that route, that was 1 person every 100 feet you saw crucified. Imagine you were walking that route. What do you draw from this in terms of your relationship to Jesus Christ?

- (e) Read Luke 17:32-33 in your sermon outline. Why do you think Jesus connected Lot's wife to losing your life and preserving your life?
- (f) Here are some questions to consider on this point:
 - i. What in your life are you stilling holding on to rather than letting it die?
 - ii. What in your life are you still trying to control your life rather than losing it under the control of Christ?
 - iii. What in your life is saying "no" to Jesus rather than "yes"?
- (g) Read Jesus' words in John 12:26. Jesus is asking, "Are you willing to follow Me anywhere by taking up your cross daily so you can follow Me? If you want to be close to Me, you are going to have to go where I'm going and I'm headed toward the cross and service. That's where I'm always going. Are you willing to do that?" If you say "yes," what is the proof?
- (h) What in your life do you need to give up or let go today?
- (i) To serve and follow Jesus means making radical life-style changes. What about your goals, interests, hobbies, career choices, habits? To follow Jesus means going the way He went—not the way of earthly power and honor—but the way of humility and death. Everything Jesus did was for God's glory. When we choose to follow Him, we must live for God's glory alone. Are you living this way? Why or why not?

6. Fourth, we learned that Jesus had a troubled heart.

- (a) Read the explanation for the Greek New Testament word translated as "troubled" in your sermon notes. Whereas Matthew, Mark and Luke state that Jesus' heart became troubled in the Garden of Gethsemane on Thursday. John's point is it began here at Passover on Sunday. If Jesus' heart came troubled here on Sunday rather than on Thursday, what significance is that?
- (b) Jesus did not pray, "*Father, save Me from this hour. Spare Me from what is about to unfold.*" He said, "*Father, I will go where You send and please bring glory to Yourself through My obedience.*" Is there anything in your life you are asking God the Father to spare or save you from today?
- (c) Sometimes, God allows things our lives that are deeply painful and fearful to teach us to say to Him as Jesus said, "Not my will, but Thy will be done." This is to teach us to say, "*The Lord gives and the Lord takes away, blessed be the name of the Lord*" as Job did. When has God done this to you and what did you learn from it?

7. Read Joshua 24:14-16, 20-21 in your sermon outline.

- (a) What are you willing to risk for the glory of Christ no matter what?
- (b) Sometimes you have to put yourself between the crowd/peer pressure that may be challenging in order to honor God and bring glory to Jesus. Are you willing to do that?
- (c) If you don't follow Christ to the cross and die there, you can't follow Him to heaven and live there. Why is this true and what are the implications for you today?