

# REFLECTION

## Questions

## MATTHEW 21:1-11

- What does Jesus' choice to ride a donkey (rather than a warhorse or in pomp) teach us about His character as King? How does this fulfill Zechariah 9:9, and what does it reveal about the kind of kingdom He brings?
- In what ways does Jesus defy typical human expectations of power, authority, and kingship in this scene?
- The crowds ask, "Who is this?" (v. 10). How would you answer that question today about Jesus? What titles or descriptions from Scripture (e.g., Son of David, King of Israel, Prophet) resonate most with you personally?
- The same crowds who shouted "Hosanna" (meaning "save us") later called for Jesus' crucifixion. What does this teach us about shallow enthusiasm, misplaced expectations of the Messiah, or human fickleness toward God?
- Why do you think people were so quick to hail Jesus as King here, yet reject Him soon after? How might similar dynamics appear in our own faith journeys?
- Imagine yourself in the crowd that day—what might your reaction have been? Would you have spread your cloak or branches, joined the shouts, or stood back questioning?
- Just as the crowds laid down cloaks and palm branches before Jesus, what "branches" or areas of your life do you need to lay down in surrender to Him as King right now (e.g., pride, control, habits, worries)?
- The crowds cried out for salvation ("Hosanna"). What is the deepest cry of your heart to Jesus today—for rescue from sin, guidance, healing, or something else?
- How does viewing Jesus as the humble, peaceful King (rather than a conquering warrior) change how you approach Him in prayer, worship, or daily decisions?
- In what situations or habits are you most prone to rejecting Jesus' rule in your life, even subtly? How does He meet you in those moments with grace?
- The disciples obeyed Jesus' unusual instructions without hesitation (going to get the donkey). What does their immediate obedience teach us about trusting Jesus' authority and plans?
- How can this passage inspire us to publicly honor and proclaim Jesus in our own "Jerusalem"—our community, workplace, or family—today?
- Reflecting on the whole Passion Week ahead, how does this moment of celebration set the stage for the cross? What does it mean that the King who enters in humility comes to save through sacrifice?