

20 November

 Break the ice

Write down what God is saying to you in today's message:

TOPIC: Gospel of John – week 26

 Let's hear your story

1. Tell of a time when you had to explain to a friend or family member that Jesus rode into Jerusalem on the back of a young donkey?
2. What did crowd shout to Jesus as He entered Jerusalem in v.13? (**Hosanna. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! The King of Israel.**)
3. What did Jesus do with the young donkey He found according to v.14? (**Then Jesus, when He had found a young donkey, sat on it...**)
4. What Old Testament prophecy did Jesus fulfil in v.15; when He entered Jerusalem sitting on a donkey's colt? (**See Zechariah 9:9**).

 Let's go deeper

5. What did the Pharisees say among themselves about Jesus in v.19? (**"...Look the world has gone after Him."**)
6. How can a seed bear much fruit according to Jesus in v.24? (**If it dies it produces much grain. Through the death of Jesus on the cross many people will receive eternal life.**)
7. How can we know if someone is a servant of Jesus Christ according to v.26 (**Jesus said; "if anyone serves Me, let him follow Me"**).
8. What will God Father do to those who serve Jesus according to v.26? (**Jesus said; "if anyone serves Me, him My Father will honour"**).

 Let's apply this

9. John 12:26; Jesus said; "If anyone **serves Me**, let him **follow Me**, and where I am, there My servant will be also. If anyone serves Me, him My Father will honour."

Jesus described the servant as one who wanted to be where Jesus is. This is not forced slavery where the servant wants to be free from the master. This is chosen, willing service that simply wants to be close to the Master.

- How is your friendship with Jesus?
- Do you serve Him with a willingness to be with Him?
- Sit at Jesus' feet this week, and listen to His voice.

SUMMARY:

Gospel of John: Week 26 (The triumphant entry).

Read: John 12:12 – 26.

v.12 – 16; The crowd greets Jesus as a coming King. The crowd looked to Jesus as a political and national saviour, but not so much as a spiritual Saviour. The cry Hosanna meant "save now," and on this day the crowd received Jesus as a triumphant Messiah. Jesus sat on a young donkey (colt), as a fulfilment of prophecy in Zechariah 9:9, and as a demonstration of the character of His Kingdom. It was a spiritual kingdom, not a military kingdom. He came in peace, not war.

v.17 – 19; The crowds adored Jesus, because they believed that the raising of Lazarus from the dead proved that Jesus could be the conquering Messiah they longed for. The popularity of Jesus was offensive to His enemies; it made them feel that they were accomplishing nothing.

v.20 – 23; These Greeks had heard of Jesus, perhaps of His reputation as a teacher and worker of miracles. What they did know of Jesus made them want to know more about Him, so they came to Philip the one disciple with a Greek name asking to see Jesus.

Jesus did not mean that He would be glorified in the eyes of men. That just happened at the triumphal entry. The glorification Jesus pointed to here was being glorified on the cross. Something the world could only see as disgraceful humiliation; Jesus saw as being glorified.

v.24 – 25; Just as seed will never become a plant unless it dies and is buried so the death and burial of Jesus was necessary to His glorification. Before there can be resurrection power and fruitfulness, there must be death. We are called to hate our life not in the sense that we disregard it, but in the sense that we freely give it up for God. Our life is precious to us, especially because it is something we can give to Jesus.

v. 26; To be a Christian is to serve Jesus, to follow Him. It does not mean that you stop working your job or caring for your family or studying at school. It means you do all that as a servant of Jesus, a follower of Jesus.

"Serves Me;" the word for serves is diakonos and is especially a servant in attendance, at a table or elsewhere. The office of a diakonos may seem a humble and painful one, but to be valued or honoured by the Father is far greater. Jesus described the servant as one who wanted to be where Jesus is. This is not forced slavery where the servant wants to be free from the master. This is chosen, willing service that simply wants to be close to the Master.