

Transformed

Palm Sunday

Reflect

- 1) What does a hero look like to Americans in our culture today?
- 2) What do you think a hero looked like to the people of Jesus' day?

Read Your Bible

- Matthew 21:1-11
- Zephaniah 9:8-10

Apply God's Word to Your Life

- 1) What is your best memory about Palm Sunday?
- 3) What jumps out at you from the scripture lessons?
- 4) What do you think the people were hoping for from Jesus?
- 5) What did God save us from?
- 6) What does it mean to you that Jesus is your King?
- 7) Where do you struggle the most with God's rule and reign in your life?
- 8) Why is Jesus a King that is worth devoting our life to?

If you were the King of the Universe, how would you come riding into town? The president of the United States arrives in style! His car is a Cadillac called the "Beast." It has 5-inch-thick security glass and 8-inch armored walls. It is fully equipped with grenades, rocket launchers and every communication capability possible. The car itself is even stocked continually with extra containers of presidential blood. Whenever it goes out, it does not go alone but rather it is accompanied with a motorcade of 25-45 other highly specialized vehicles. Talk about an entourage!

In stark contrast, Jesus rides into Jerusalem. Humble and riding on a donkey. No security team, no military might, no luxuries whatsoever, He rides to the temple to die for you and me. Throngs of people, not the rich or the famous but the average and every day, gather around Him crying "Hosanna!" which means God save us. This King did not come to be honored, but to be humiliated. This King did not come to rule with power, but to win us over with the fullness of God's love.

There have been many rulers and people of power in this world who have put on displays of great power and privilege. Yet, Jesus, humble and riding on a donkey, has changed the course of our world more than any leader who has ever lived. What king will you follow? Pray

Gracious King, we love You and praise You. With the throngs of people everywhere today we cry out Hosanna, save us! Save us from everything that seeks to enslave us. Thank You for saving us on a cross from our sins. Thank You that You did not see Your power as something to lord over us, but rather took the form of a servant to show us Your love. In Jesus' Name, Amen.