

The King and the Colt

Palm Sunday | 04.01.12

Growth Questions

1. Share with the group any insight, truth, or observation from Sunday's message that helped you, troubled you, or ministered to you.
2. For a moment, pretend you are in the crowd at Jesus' Triumphal Entrance into Jerusalem. What emotions, thoughts, or reactions do you have? Would you abandon caution and worship unashamedly? What would be your motives for following?
3. What does this passage of Scripture teach you about your King? What awes you about Him? What tenders your heart most toward Him?
4. Fun question: Compare the colt under Jesus' command to another donkey in Numbers 22:22-35. What do both of these passages teach us about the extent of God's authority? Compare the owner of the colt to Balaam. What do these men teach about allegiance to Christ and God's heart toward obedience?
5. You may not own a donkey, but what does the church have that God may "have need of." What are some reasons we withhold those things from God? What motivates us to offer them freely like the colt owner?

Living on Mission

1. What are you willing to release to Jesus just because He has need of it? What is still "tied to the post"? What needs to happen in order for you to release to Him what He has asked?
2. How unabashed is your own worship of Christ? Is it always private? How might you worship God differently if you had no fear or concern for the opinions of others? Would rocks have to replace you?
3. What is your obedience like? Do you move without question when God says to move? If God had asked you to go get the donkey, would you have considered it a task "beneath" you? Would you have needed for Him to explain why? Would you have run off before He told you where to look? Would you have begged him to choose someone else? Ask God to expose the state of your heart and to use you as His tool for obedience.
4. What are your motives for following Christ? Will you follow Him when you don't see Him at work around you? Do you follow Him FOR you or because He is worthy to be followed? Have there been times when you have denied or betrayed His Lordship over you? Recall times of utter joy in your obedience to Him and swear your allegiance to Him once again.
5. Who stands in the crowd with you that you need to explain Jesus to? Commit to share the gospel.

This Week's Reading:

Monday: Luke 19:28-40 & Zech. 9:9

Tuesday: Matt. 21:1-11

Wednesday: Mark 11:1-10

Thursday: John 12:12-20,37b-43

Friday: Heb. 10:23

Saturday: Isaiah 25:1

Suggested Resources:

Fifty Reasons Why Jesus Came To Die, John Piper

King's Cross: The Story of the World in the Life of Christ, Timothy Keller

The Christ of Easter, Calvin Miller

IMPORTANT DATES

04/06/12 Good Friday Service – Hosted at Westview Baptist Church – 6:00 pm
Childcare will be provided.

04/08/12 Easter Worship Schedule – 8:00, 9:30, and 11:00. Bring a friend!

Baptisms at Easter – Register at baptism.martinsburgchurch.org

05/13/12 Baby/Child Dedication – Go to dedication.martinsburgchurch.org to register

Moldova Mission: July 5-14 - \$2,400, initial deposit due by April 8 and the balance due by June 3. Email contact@martinsburgchurch.org or go to missions.martinsburgchurch.org to register.

Filling the Easter Egg: Make a difference in our community this Easter by bringing items for local students and drop it off on your way next week... you can't miss the Egg!

*Individual Snacks *Toothbrush *Small Toothpaste *Hairbrush *Pencils

*Pencil Sharpener

Mission Team in Martinsburg right now! See Pastor Dan for information on how you can participate with them this week.

Community Groups Going On Now – Join one Today!

For more information about group meeting times and locations, please visit groups.martinsburgchurch.org. Gathering weekly for fellowship and accountability, study and prayer, good times and tears. Community Groups are an essential expression of our church's mission. At the heart of the Community Groups ministry is the desire to see a community of believers who worship Jesus, love one another, and embody the mission of The Church at Martinsburg to make disciples.

STUDENT COMMUNITY GROUP: Next meeting is Today, April 1st at 7:00 pm at the Culbertson's Home – Contact Justin at justin.j.culbertson@gmail.com with any questions.

VOLUNTEERING: Interested in serving at C@M? Our volunteers are a huge part of what takes place here not only on Sundays, but the entire week. Visit volunteering.martinsburgchurch.org to see the opportunities we have posted and sign up today! You can call (304) 596-9330 or email contact@martinsburgchurch.org.

PASTOR ON CALL FOR 04/06/12 – 04/09/12 Joe Hamblin

If you or your family have an emergency and need to get hold of a pastor from Friday morning through Monday morning please call 304.616.9007 to reach The Church at Martinsburg's Pastor on call.

Missionary Toolbox

Church History Bio – John Donne (1572-1631) 17th-century poet. The *Divine Poems*, many of them splendid sonnets, are products of Donne's later years and reveal an intensity of feeling and depth of insight rarely equaled in English poetry. Donne was also a great preacher. His *Devotions Upon Emergent Occasions* (1624) contains the famous passage which begins, "No man is an island," and ends, "Ask not for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee."

Theological Term of the Week – Good Friday: The darkest day of the year. It's the day we remember Jesus' death on the Cross – a death we deserved – for the forgiveness of our sins and the restoration of our relationship with God. It's a somber day, a reflection on the searing pain and agony of the man who was God dying the most horrible of deaths in our place. It's a day to reflect on our sin, realize the weight of our affliction, and remind ourselves that we killed God. *So why is it a good day?* It's also a day to remember that God willingly came as a man to die in our place. A day to reflect on the deep love of God, who desired to redeem us and heal us, to make us friends with Him. A day to understand that the grace of God is deeper than the furthest depths of our sin, for by His wounds we are healed, and by His blood we are cleansed.