



# LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

## “Celebrating the King’s Arrival”

**John 12:12-19**

### **Community Building Talking Point**

As we come to the last week before Good Friday and Easter, the story of the gospel really highlights the work of Christ in his last week on earth. What feelings do Good Friday and Easter bring up for you? What do you look forward to the most on Easter?

### **Questions for Discussion**

1. What are some things you get excited to cheer for today?
2. The event of Jesus riding into Jerusalem on a donkey on what we know as “Palm Sunday” was the biggest thing for the Jews to cheer about for a long time. Considering Rome’s occupation over Israel, Israel’s hope for a redemptive king, and the fact that Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead right shortly before this, there was a lot of expectation. What would you have been most excited about for Jesus to arrive?
3. As we see in the week that follows Jesus’ arrival into Jerusalem, the crowds get a lot of things wrong about their expectations of Jesus. However, they get one thing right—celebrating Jesus as eternal king. What makes you want to worship Jesus?
4. John’s depiction of this scene really brings to light that Jesus’ agenda was not the same as the crowd’s agenda for him. That’s a sobering reminder that sometimes God’s answers to his promises don’t fit our agendas. Can you think of a time when God’s plan didn’t line up with what you thought it should?
5. Jesus’ closest followers still didn’t get God’s plan through Jesus until after they saw him glorified (after his death and resurrection), but God did help them understand in time. Walking with God helps us learn to see God’s plan unfolding in our midst today. How have you learned to trust God’s plan? Has following Jesus helped you see the world through a different lens? If so, how has it helped you see God at work?
6. What would you say to someone who struggles to understand what God is doing in their life? How might you encourage them?

Pray with each other, sharing each other’s concerns with God, but also praying for the Spirit to open up the doors for our witness to Jesus.