



LIFELINE Discussion Guide

Week of April 14, 2025

1. Pastor Jared told the story of being swept up in the emotion of the crowd at the New England Patriots Super Bowl parade in 2017-- even though he wasn't even a fan of that team. Has there every been a time when you were swept up in the moment, where there was excitement, energy, or emotion? Tell your story to the group.
2. Read Matthew 21:1-11. How would you summarize this story in your own words?
3. Ancient kings were known to enter cities of conquest riding white horses of war. What did this signify to the people they conquered? What message was Jesus trying to send by riding on a donkey? (Use the prophecy of Zechariah 9:9 as part of your answer).
4. *How do we know that Jesus entrance was purposeful and planned, rather than accidental? What details did He arrange ahead of time?*
5. *How did the crowd misunderstand Jesus' mission? What were they all secretly hoping for with Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem? What did Jesus actually come to accomplish?*
6. *In verses 12-13, Jesus immediately went into the Temple and overturned the tables of the money changers. He exposed their selfishness and greed. What are some other idols of the heart that we are typically slow to surrender? Explain your answers.*
7. *There were thousands in the crowd who applauded and cheered Jesus. They were excited about getting a "King" -- but few were willing to surrender to Him as "Lord". Why it is so easy for us to praise Jesus on Sundays, but then not respond with obedience on the other days of the week?*
8. *What are two of the true marks of a "sheep" (follower) of Jesus according to John 12:27-30? What do these two marks look like in the real world?*
9. *How can you close the gap in your life between what you know about Jesus and how you actually obey Jesus in everyday life? Share your ideas and close with a prayer asking for God's assistance and the courage to do what honors King Jesus.*

Jesus is the humble king who didn't seek temporary praise, but eternal devotion.