

**Encounter these verses today:**

*circle words that you identify with, underline phrases or sentences you'd like to remember, write questions about the passage out to the side ...*



# Who is this man?



April 1, 2012 | Pastor Steve Close

## Matthew 21:1-11 :: King Jesus Enters Jerusalem

1 As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, 2 saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. 3 If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away."

4 This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet:

5 "Say to Daughter Zion, 'See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.'"

6 The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. 7 They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. 8 A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. 9 The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted,

"Hosanna to the Son of David!"

"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"

"Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

10 When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, "Who is this?"

11 The crowds answered, "This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee."

## John 18:33-37 :: King Jesus before Pilate

33 Pilate then went back inside the palace, summoned Jesus and asked him, "Are you the king of the Jews?"

34 "Is that your own idea," Jesus asked, "or did others talk to you about me?"

35 "Am I a Jew?" Pilate replied. "Your own people and chief priests handed you over to me. What is it you have done?"

36 Jesus said, "My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jewish leaders. But now my kingdom is from another place."

37 "You are a king, then!" said Pilate.

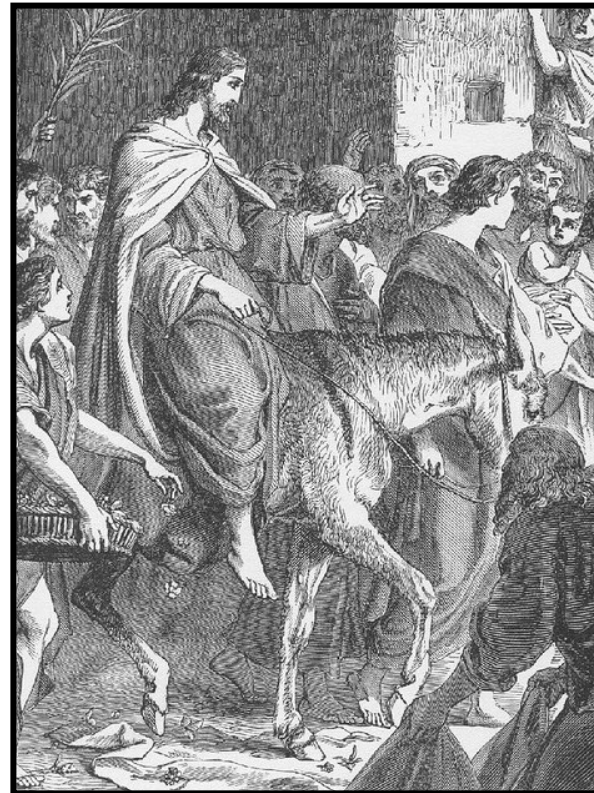
Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. In fact, the reason I was born and came into the world is to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me."

## The Coming of Zion's King!

Rejoice greatly, Daughter Zion! Shout, Daughter Jerusalem!

See, your king comes to you, righteous and victorious,  
lowly and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

Zachariah 9:9 (NIV)



# Digging Deeper

[Engaging the message throughout the week]

## Monday: 04.02.2012

**Prayer Focus:** The Flushing Community

**Passage:** Luke 19:45-48

**Insight:** We find Jesus starting the week, that he knows will end in his death, by entering the Temple and driving out the merchants. He became enraged that the Temple leaders were taking advantage of God's people.

### Questions for Consideration:

How would you feel as one of Jesus' followers to watch him drive people out of the Temple?

What would it mean for you to help others find a 'house of prayer' when they come to a worship service?

## Tuesday: 04.03.2012

**Prayer Focus:** FCC Church Leadership

**Passage:** Luke 20:9-18

**Insight:** Jesus tells a parable that describes God sending the prophets to his people, and how they have ignored and even killed them. Jesus ends the parable with a surprising twist: that the vineyard owner will destroy the wicked tenants!

### Questions for Consideration:

If you were one of the tenants caring for the vineyard, how do you think you would have treated the servants or the son?

What is it that God has entrusted to you for you to care for?

## Wednesday: 04.04.2012

**Prayer Focus:** Easter Sunday Service

**Passage:** Luke 22:1-6

**Insight:** Tradition tells us that Judas Iscariot agreed to betray Jesus the day before the Passover meal was celebrated. The chief priests and scribes hated Jesus because he challenged their teachings, and they were afraid that all the people would follow after him instead of them.

### Questions for Consideration:

Why do you think that Judas agreed to betray Jesus? What was going on in his heart?

Would you be willing to risk following Jesus if it could cause other people to hate you, or even cost you your life?

## Thursday: 04.05.2012

**Prayer Focus:** The sick and recovering (iPray)

**Passage:** Luke 22:7-13

**Insight:** The Passover festival was the celebration of God liberating his people from Egypt. However, the way that Jesus celebrated the Passover Seder meal with his disciples was radical: he proclaimed a new liberation that God was about to provide for his people through his own death and resurrection.

### Questions for Consideration:

How confused do you think the disciples were as they listened to Jesus talk about a new covenant in his own blood?

When we celebrate Communion do you think about it being God's promise to you?

## Friday: 04.06.2012

**Prayer Focus:** Our church worship services

**Passage:** Luke 23:44-56

**Insight:** As we hear Jesus' last words from the cross, we find that all along he has trusted God. Then after his death, a man named Joseph wanted to honor Jesus' body with a proper burial as they prepared for the Sabbath.

### Questions for Consideration:

How do you think Jesus' followers felt on the Sabbath after his death?

What would you have done after watching your friend and teacher die as an innocent man?

**Wednesday Night**

**B O O S T**

**Get ready for our  
spring session!**

April 11 - May 23

**Ladies:** "Mercy Triumphs" by Beth Moore. Discover what faith in Jesus can do for you as you journey through the book of James!

**Men:** Using the Life Application Bible Study, we will be journeying through the book of James. Meeting at the Salem's home!

**The Book of Acts:** Mike DeVuyst will be leading a great discussion on the book of Acts.

**Children:** Will be looking the Lord's prayer and Club 56 will be going through the book of Daniel.

**Youth:** Will be meeting at Pastor Joel's and going through the Mosaic Experiment looking at ancient practices of faith.