IIFEGROUPS STUDY GUIDE

"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer." Acts 2:42

→ SERIES: Mark

> MESSAGE TITLE: Jesus is the Humble Servant

MESSAGE DATE: 04/13/2025

MESSAGE SUMMARY:

Pastor Michael Montgomery discusses the significance of Palm Sunday, emphasizing the contrast between the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem and the rapid shift in public sentiment against him. He explores the meaning of the term "Euangelion," highlighting how Jesus came to proclaim good news not just for the Jews, but for all humanity, including Gentiles. Using the examples of the feedings of the 5,000 and 4,000, Pastor Mike explains that Jesus' ministry was to serve first the Jews and then the Gentiles, ultimately revealing his role as a humble servant king, contrary to the expectations of the Jewish people. He encourages the congregation to emulate Jesus' selfless service in their lives, emphasizing the transformative power of serving others as a reflection of their faith.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1.) Why do you think the crowd that welcomed Jesus on Palm Sunday turned against him just a few days later?

Pastor Mike discussed how the crowd's expectations of Jesus as a conquering king clashed with his true purpose of serving and bringing spiritual freedom.

Have you ever experienced a situation where someone's behavior didn't match your expectations? How did that impact your view of them?

2.) What does the term 'Euangelion' signify in the context of Jesus' ministry, and how does it differ from the political interpretations of the Jews at that time?

Pastor Mike explained that 'Euangelion' means good news and was often used for imperial proclamations, showing how Jesus redefined victory and kingship.

How can understanding the true meaning of 'good news' change the way you view your own life and the world around you?

3.) In the feeding of the 5,000 and the 4,000, how do the symbolic numbers of 12 and 7 reflect Jesus' mission to both Jews and Gentiles?

Pastor Mike highlighted that 12 symbolizes the Jewish tribes while 7 represents completion and the inclusion of the Gentiles in Jesus' ministry.

In what ways can you embrace diversity in your community while recognizing the importance of your own background and identity?



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→ DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

4.) How does Jesus' entry into Jerusalem on a donkey contrast with the expectations of a powerful king during his time?

Pastor Mike pointed out that Jesus' humble entrance on a donkey demonstrates his role as a servant king rather than a traditional ruler seeking power.

What can you learn from Jesus' example of humility and servanthood in your everyday interactions with others?

5.) Reflect on Philippians 2:6-8, where it describes Jesus' humility. How does this passage challenge your understanding of leadership and greatness?

Pastor Mike discussed how Jesus' willingness to suffer and serve others redefines what it means to be truly great in the eyes of God.

How might you practice serving others in your school or community to reflect Jesus' humility and servant heart?