



The King Is Here | Shawn Johnson | 03.23.2025

Weekly Study

SHARE

As group members get settled, take a few minutes to check in with everyone and see how life is going. Share an exciting story from this week, your highs and lows, an answered prayer, or something you're struggling with. If someone is really struggling, rally the group around them and take a few moments to pray over them.

- **Share a high, a low, and something interesting from this week.**
- **On a scale of 1 to 5, how would you rate your understanding of symbolism found in the Bible? 1 – I have no idea what's going on and 5 – I fully understand it all.**

GROW

Welcome to week two of our Holy Week series. As we explore the significance of Palm Sunday, we're reminded of the profound symbolism in Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. The story reveals how Jesus deliberately fulfilled ancient prophecies, riding on a donkey to proclaim His identity as the long-awaited Messiah. This wasn't a random act, but a carefully orchestrated declaration of His kingship.

The crowd's cries of 'Hosanna' and 'Son of David' weren't mere excitement, but a recognition of Jesus as the promised savior. This teaches us that God's plans are intricate and purposeful, often revealed in ways we might not expect. As we reflect on this, we're challenged to look for

God's hand in our own lives. Palm Sunday invites us to shout our own 'Hosannas,' acknowledging Jesus as our King and trusting in His sovereign control over our lives.

Read Matthew 21:1-11

- What stuck out to you from Shawn's message this week? Explain.
- If someone asked you, "Who is this Jesus?" (like the crowd did in verse 10), how would you respond?
- In what ways can you actively 'prepare the way' for Jesus in your life and community, similar to how the crowds welcomed Him on Palm Sunday?
- After repeatedly asking people to stay quiet about His miracles throughout His ministry, why do you think Jesus chose this moment to reveal Himself so openly?
- The crowd shouted "Hosanna," meaning "save us." What areas of your life do you need Jesus to "save" or intervene in right now?

M O V E

Here are a few key takeaways from this week's message:

- Palm Sunday marks Jesus' public declaration of His identity as the Messiah and King.
- Jesus fulfilled Old Testament prophecies about the coming King through His actions.
- The symbolism and details of Palm Sunday reveal Jesus' intentional claim to be the promised Messiah.

Read Philippians 2:5-11, Colossians 1:15-23

- In what ways can you actively 'prepare the way' for Jesus in your life and community, similar to how the crowds welcomed Him on Palm Sunday?

- The same crowd that praised Jesus later called for His crucifixion. Have you ever found yourself shifting in your faith when expectations aren't met?
- What are some ways people today might still misunderstand who Jesus is or what He came to do?
- Are there still aspects of Jesus and his life that You're still confused about?

P R A Y

Lord, prepare our hearts as You prepared the road into Jerusalem. Make us ready to welcome Jesus—not just with words, but with our lives. Help us to lay down anything that hinders our surrender, just as the crowds laid down their cloaks before Him.

Jesus, we don't want to just remember the events of Holy Week—we want to be transformed by them. As we reflect on Your journey to the cross, let us see Your love more clearly, feel the weight of Your sacrifice more personally, and rejoice in the power of Your resurrection more fully.

Holy Spirit, awaken something new within us this week. Let us experience the presence and person of Jesus in ways we never have before. Stir our hearts to worship, to surrender, to love, and to trust in You with renewed faith.

Amen