



Group Guide

Hosanna in the Highest

March 29, 2026

Main Passage: Mark 11:1-11

Theological Theme

Jesus entered Jerusalem as Messiah, ready to pay the price for our eternal deliverance from sin.

Introduction

- ❓ What is a famous entrance that stands out in your mind? What made it memorable?
- ❓ What do you do if you want to make an entrance in a particular setting or with a certain group?

1. The Colt (Mark 11:1-6)

Jesus's use of the colt held significance. First, Jesus specified that no one has ever sat upon this colt. This makes it suitable to be used for a sacred purpose (fit for a King). Further, the colt fulfilled Messianic prophecy from Zechariah 9:9. Mark did not give this detail, but Matthew (who quoted extensive Old Testament prophecy to point to Jesus as the long-awaited Messiah) spelled this out in Matthew 21:4-5.

- ❓ How did Jesus display trust in the Father in this passage? How did the disciples display trust in Jesus and the Father?
- ❓ How did the response of those who questioned the disciples further affirm Jesus's identity and testimony?
- ❓ How does fulfillment of prophecy in Jesus serve to build our faith in Him?

2. Humble and Riding on a Donkey (Mark 11:7-8)

With the requested animal procured, the disciples spread their clothes on its back and Jesus sat on it. Mark recorded that "many people" (v. 8) bore witness to this event (Matthew recorded "a very large crowd" Matthew 21:8). The crowd reacted to Jesus's entrance on the donkey by spreading their clothes and leafy branches over the road on which He rode.

- ❓ How did the people respond to Jesus's arrival? What might this indicate about the crowd?
- ❓ How can we rightly respond to Jesus today?
- ❓ Think about the many times Jesus said His time had not yet come. How did these events signal that His time had come? What was meant by His time?

3. Hosanna! (Mark 11:9-11)

In addition to laying down their clothes and branches, the people shouted praises to Jesus as He entered. Mark recounted two groups of people shouting here, first “those who went ahead” and second “those who followed” (v. 9).

- ❓ The people spoke the right words about Jesus but misunderstood His purpose. How might we make the same error?
- ❓ How can we be sure we are receiving Jesus as He intends and not only as we desire or expect?
- ❓ How is God's offer of salvation better than any earthly redemption we might desire?

Conclusion

- ❓ How would the events of this passage serve to support the truth of the gospel claims, even if the people couldn't see it in real time?
- ❓ What can we learn from this passage about trusting the Lord's instruction, even when the situation feels uncomfortable?
- ❓ Who can you share this account with to tell them about the saving work of Jesus?