

Which Parade Will You Attend?

Keith Simon | Matthew 21

Sermon Discussion Participant's Guide

Purpose of Discussion: To live more in line with the values of Jesus' kingdom

Icebreaker: What has been your best parade experience?

Discussion:

1. Parades celebrate certain events and virtues and give a particular vision of what is important. What vision of life do the following parades give?
 - Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade
 - Mardi Gras Parade in New Orleans
 - Mizzou Homecoming Parade
 - The March March at True/False
2. In his sermon, Keith described the parade that would accompany Pontius Pilate would enter Jerusalem during Passover week: War horses, armor, weapons, Roman symbols, soldiers, drums. Why would Pilate want to enter the city in that way?

Read:

[Matthew 21:1-11](#)

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

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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.”

3. What different about Jesus’ parade into the city?
4. The palm tree was a symbol of Jewish nationalism. What does that show the kind of Messiah the Jewish people were hoping for?
5. What kind of Messiah was Jesus?
6. What vision for life does Jesus’ parade give for his followers?
7. How does Jesus’ parade challenge us to live differently than the parades we mentioned in the first question?

Sharing and Prayer:

What is a way that you feel challenged to walk more in line with Jesus’ parade?

Have everyone share and pray for the person on your left.