

OPENING PRAYER

SHARE

- While driving have you ever missed an exit or sign that left you lost and confused as to where you were? Share some examples of times when you have missed an obvious “sign” and where left lost.

Reversal and contradiction are rampant in the passion (final days) of Christ. The crowds that shouted, “*Hosanna!*” would soon be shouting “*Crucify!*” How could this happen? Because the people missed the point. They let Jesus, the Son of God, pass them by on that triumphant Palm Sunday without recognizing who he really was. However, while we know they missed the real meaning and significance of that day, the real question is—have we? Does God have our full attention? During this Holy Week (The seven days before Easter) we are called to open our eyes to the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus as “signs” of God’s love toward us—don’t miss it!

READ: Matthew 21:1-11

① Jesus is Coming to Town... Don’t miss the SIGN of verse 5

Read verse 5 again, and then also read Zechariah 9:9-12.

When Jesus enters Jerusalem he is fulfilling God’s promise of a coming King. However, many people missed the sign that Jesus was the fulfillment of God’s promise—the promised King.

- *What are some of the promises of God that you need right now? (Protection, provision, safety, healing, etc.) How can you sometimes miss the signs or evidence of God’s promises in your own life?*

② Jesus is Coming to Town... Don’t miss the SIGN of verse 9

Read verse 9 again. Note that the word *hosanna* means “save now,” so what does this teach us about the point of this verse? Note that the word *blessed* means “happy or fortunate,” so what does this teach us about the point of this verse?

- *What does it mean to truly trust in God, and not rely on your own resources and abilities? When do you find it easy or difficult to depend on God in your daily life?*

③ Jesus is Coming to Town... Don’t miss the SIGN of verse 11

Read verse 11 again. What do the crowds call or label Jesus in this verse? What did they miss? What is the oversight on their part?

- *Who do you say Jesus is? Who do you proclaim him to be?*
- *What do the crowds from Palm Sunday (Jesus’ triumphal entry) and the crowds on Good Friday (Jesus’ crucifixion) teach us about humanity? How can we be similar today?*
- *How can we gain a better understanding and commitment to Jesus as our King, Lord, and Savior this week?*

CLOSE IN PRAYER

