

Growth Group Study – Palm Sunday - Who is this?
Readings Zechariah 9:9–13 & Matthew 21.1-11
14 4 2019 – John Malcolm

What is the biggest parade you have seen or taken part in?

What was being celebrated?

Was it exciting for you or were you put off by the crowds and the noise?

Read Matthew 21.1-11

Why do you think there was such a celebration as Jesus arrived in Jerusalem?

What might be the equivalent of laying palm branches in modern celebrations where celebrities or royalty arrive?

Read Zechariah 9:9 & 16

How does this prophecy help us to understand what Jesus was doing?

How might the crowd have interpreted Jesus' actions?

How does verse 16 link to the shouts of hosanna?

What expectations might Jesus' triumphal entrance have raised among the people?

Why would this have *stirred* the whole city? (Matt 21.10) (The word used here is sometimes used of an earthquake and has a strong emotional sense of being in shaken and unsettled).

How did the crowd answer the question, *Who is this?* And what do we learn about Jesus from their answer?

Read Matthew 21.14-15

Why were the authorities not moved by the wonders Jesus was doing but instead became indignant?

What were the authorities afraid of?

How did this fear stop them from recognising Jesus' true identity?

Who is this?

What do we learn about Jesus' identity from the following verses:

Mark 1:11

Matthew 8.23-27

Matthew 16.13-16

Luke 19:37–40

Matthew 26:63–66

Matthew 27:54

John 19.19-22

Acts 2:36–38

Colossians 1.15-20

How would you summarise what we learn about Jesus' identity from these verses?

Is there anything else about Jesus you might like to add to this?

Why do you think people tend to find themselves either for or against Jesus?

Greyfriars mission is to help people know and follow Jesus.

How does a good understanding of Jesus' identity help us or motivate us to fulfil this mission?

Read Acts 2:40

Why do you think Peter was so motivated to help people know and follow Jesus?

How would you complete the following sentence *Greyfriars most fulfils this mission when we*

At Greyfriars we speak of disciples who are **FOR** Jesus.

F_ _ _ _ _ Jesus (Matt 4.19)

O_ _ _ _ _ Jesus (John 14.15)

R_ _ _ _ _ in Jesus (John 15.4 NIV)

How can we be **FOR** Jesus in our:

Growth Group?

Ministry Team?

Church Life?

For personal reflection:

Who do you say Jesus is?

What could you do this week to:

Follow Jesus more faithfully

Obey Jesus more fully

Remain in Jesus more