

INTRO

In this sermon, Rob explored Palm Sunday through the lens of true greatness, contrasting the Kingdom of God with worldly power structures as Jesus entered Jerusalem.

How would you have defined greatness before hearing this message?

What images or thoughts typically come to mind when you think of Palm Sunday?

IDEA 1: REDEFINING GREATNESS

Rob highlighted several ways Jesus redefined greatness through his teachings in Mark 9-10:

- True greatness puts others first ("Whoever wants to be first must take last place")
- True greatness is childlike (trusting, imaginative, compassionate)
- True greatness is humble service (serving without expecting anything in return)

How do these definitions of greatness contrast with what our culture celebrates?

When have you experienced the freedom that comes from putting others first?

Which aspect of childlikeness do you find most challenging to maintain as an adult?

What rises up when you consider serving without guarantee of recognition or reward?

How might your workplace or neighborhood change if these definitions of greatness were applied?

IDEA 2: THE TWO PARADES

Rob described Palm Sunday as a contrasting picture of power, with Pilate's military parade entering from one side of Jerusalem while Jesus entered humbly on a donkey:

- It was "street theater" that revealed two kingdoms in conflict
- Jesus intentionally fulfilled prophecy while subverting expectations
- The scene posed an invitation that still stands today

IDEA 2: THE TWO PARADES

What struck you about the contrast between Pilate's parade and Jesus' entry?

Which "parade" do you find yourself most naturally drawn to, and why?

What specific areas of your life need to be realigned with Kingdom values rather than worldly success?

EXPERIENCING GOD TOGETHER

Take a few minutes to meditate on Philippians 2:5-11 as a life group:

"You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had. Though he was God, he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to. Instead, he gave up his divine privileges; he took the humble position of a slave and was born as a human being. When he appeared in human form, he humbled himself in obedience to God and died a criminal's death on a cross. Therefore, God elevated him to the place of highest honor and gave him the name above all other names, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue declare that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

As you meditate, reflect on these questions:

- **What privileges or comforts might God be asking you to lay down?**
- **How might embracing humility actually lead to true greatness in your life?**
- **What would it look like to have "the same attitude that Christ Jesus had" this week?**

Take some time to share what you are hearing from God.

PRACTICE THIS WEEK

This week, choose one way to intentionally "take the last place" and serve someone without recognition

Consider using this prayer daily: "Your kingdom come, your will be done."