

“The Father’s Heart”

Start Talking: Share about your week with others. What’s going well? What’s something we can be praying together about?

Key Scripture: Read the following together. *Now when they drew near Jerusalem, and came to Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, 2 saying to them, “Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Loose them and bring them to Me. 3 And if anyone says anything to you, you shall say, ‘The Lord has need of them,’ and immediately he will send them.*

4 All this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, saying:

5 “Tell the daughter of Zion,

‘Behold, your King is coming to you,

Lowly, and sitting on a donkey,

A colt, the foal of a donkey.’ ”

6 So the disciples went and did as Jesus commanded them. 7 They brought the donkey and the colt, laid their clothes on them, and set Him on them. 8 And a very great multitude spread their clothes on the road; others cut down branches from the trees and spread them on the road. 9 Then the multitudes who went before and those who followed cried out, saying:

“Hosanna to the Son of David!

‘Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!’

Hosanna in the highest!”

10 And when He had come into Jerusalem, all the city was moved, saying, “Who is this?”

11 So the multitudes said, “This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth of Galilee.” Matthew 21:1-11 NKJV

1. What does this scripture tell me about me?
2. What does this scripture tell me about God?

Start Sharing: Choose a question (or several) to create openness and discussion.

- How does Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem challenge our expectations of what a king should look like? Why is Jesus' choice to ride on a donkey significant in terms of his kingship and message of peace? How does Jesus' humility and peace contrast with traditional views of kingship and power?

- What does Jesus' relationship with the Father reveal to us about the nature of God? How does the parable of the prodigal son reflect the love and forgiveness of God towards us? In what ways do we see parallels between the prodigal son's return to the Father and our own journey back to God?
- What does it mean to accept the gift of salvation and how does it impact our daily lives? How can we actively reflect on the sacrifice Jesus made for us during Holy Week? In what ways can we respond to the message of reconciliation and peace that Jesus offers us through His death and resurrection?

Start Praying: Pray together and for one another.

“Father, help us to reflect on and receive your salvation today. Forgive us for running from You to pursue the riches of this world. Help us to exemplify you and live a life of humility, servitude and unconditional love. Help us to respond to your reconciliation and peace. We thank you for your sacrifice and salvation. Amen ”