



LESSONS FROM THE DONKEY

Big Idea

A donkey can teach us three important lessons. Pastor Curt's Palm Sunday message drew inspiration from a borrowed young donkey. One minute, the donkey was quietly tied to his post, and then suddenly he was carrying Jesus into Jerusalem with large crowds of people singing and praising God all around him. The people were waving palm branches and throwing their jackets onto the road shouting that a king had come to bring peace. This event fulfilled a prophecy made 500 years earlier:

Rejoice, O people of Zion! Shout in triumph, O people of Jerusalem! Look, your king is coming to you. He is righteous and victorious, yet he is humble, riding on a donkey—riding on a donkey's colt.
Zechariah 9:9 NLT

Jesus wants to borrow you this Easter! Each of us is called to be a donkey. We carry the Savior of the world into our sphere of influence to people who need the hope that only Jesus brings. If God can use a donkey, He can use you and me to do this also. The three lessons we learn from this life of this donkey are:

1. Faithfulness, don't wander
2. Fearlessness, don't waver
3. Fruitfulness, don't wait

During this unique time of the coronavirus sweeping across the world many people are scared, looking for hope. You and I can be like the donkey who was borrowed to bring Jesus, the hope of the world, to them.

Discussion Questions

- Read the Palm Sunday event from Luke 19, John 12 and finally Zechariah 9:9. Put yourself in the place of the young donkey - what would you talk about with your donkey friends the next day?
- Refer to the three lessons PC shared. What would you say to your donkey friends when they ask you, "Why did they pick you?"
- PC said, *"What qualified Don the donkey? it had never been ridden! How often do we disqualify ourselves when God says, "You are exactly what I need..." God doesn't so much want your ability as He wants your availability. This year and particularly this week before Easter we have a unique opportunity to invite neighbors to hear the good news of God's love."* What ideas do you have to invite your neighbors, family, and friends to view the Easter Sunday message online?
- What is your next step? Jesus wants to borrow you this Easter! What one thing will you do?

Prayer Focus

Father, thank You for being our Savior and Protector. Pray that God will empower you to carry the Savior of the world to others, even in the middle of COVID -19. Thank Him for His sovereignty in allowing us to be here for this time and ask Him to give us creative ideas to impact our communities for Him!

Next Steps

Make a list of those you consider to be in your sphere of influence. Ask God to create moments for you to impact their lives this week. Pray for opportunities to invite people to Easter services online.

Leader Tip

As a group, identify and commit to a project while we "Stay-at-Home." Most likely there is a need that your group can contribute to right around you. Ask those you are in contact with - what needs to be done, and bring those suggestions to your group. Find a need and fill it; find a hurt and heal it.