

TLC Home Group Expectations

- **Please start and end on time.** If you'd like to provide an atmosphere of fellowship, it's better that you provide this at the end to allow people who have to leave the opportunity to do so.
 - **Allow silence.** Allow room for others to contemplate and even feel uncomfortable when asking someone to read, within group prayer, or when throwing out a question. Please don't rush in just to fill the space. Allow God to do what only He can.
 - **When sharing, make it about you and what God is revealing about you and or Him.** Please allow room for others to share (don't dominate).
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WHO IS THIS
Matthew 21:1-11

We have read the chapter from which our text is taken; let me now rehearse the incident in your hearing. There was an expectation upon the popular mind of the Jewish people, that Messiah was about to come. They expected him to be a temporal prince; one who would make war upon the Romans and restore to the Jews their lost nationality. There were many who, though they did not believe in Christ with a Spiritual faith, nevertheless hoped that perhaps he might be to them a great temporal deliverer, and we read that on one or two occasions they would have taken him and made him a king, but that he hid himself. There was an anxious desire that somebody or other should lift the standard of rebellion and lead the people against their oppressors. Seeing the mighty things which Christ did, the wish was father to the thought, and they imagined that He might probably restore to Israel the kingdom and set them free. The Saviour at length saw that it was coming to a crisis. For him it must either be death for having disappointed popular expectation, or else he must yield to the wishes of the people, and be made a king. You know which he chose. He came to save others, and not to be made a king himself in the sense in which they understood him. (Charles Spurgeon 1861)

Read Matthew 21:1-11

Why were the crowds celebrating?

Why was it challenging for those celebrating, those that viewed the evidence of Jesus being the Messiah, to understand what Jesus really came for?

The Jewish people viewed Roman oppression as their biggest issue, but the reality was their biggest issue was their sin. We also can be distracted by thinking that the issues lie around us instead of in us. Talk about a time when you realized it wasn't something or someone else that was the issue but rather your sin was the issue.

As Jesus entered the city, they asked "who is this?" If a person who didn't know Jesus asked you who Jesus is, what three words or phrases would you use to describe Jesus, and use specific scripture to back up your description.

What would you like to bring before God in prayer?