

Lifegroup Questions

Mark 11

Read Mark 11:1-11

- Jesus used the colt (donkey) to remind his followers of Zechariah's prophecy (Zechariah 9:9), why do you think that he does this?
- The people called Hosanna (meaning save/rescue/help) and sang words from Psalm 118 (Psalm 118:25-26), why do you think that Jesus accepts their praise now, when he has spent much of Mark telling people not to speak about him?
- What do you think the people were expecting Jesus to do after he entered the city? Do you think they were disappointed?
- Do we sometimes have expectations of God that he doesn't fulfil? How do we respond when God does not do what we expect him to do?

Read Mark 11:12-19

- Why do you think that Mark includes this strange story about the fig tree? (See Jeremiah 8:13) In what way were the Jewish people giving the impression that they were bearing fruit (looking good on the outside)? What kind fruit was God really looking for?
- Why did Jesus have such an issue with people buying and selling in the temple court? (See Isaiah 56:1-8, Jeremiah 7:9-11). Do our actions ever hinder others from worshiping God?

Read Mark 11:20-25

- Why was Jesus unsurprised that the fig tree had withered? What does he teach his followers about prayer? Why is forgiveness so important?
- What do you think it means for us to be fruitful? (See John 14:5-8, Galatians 5:22-25)
- The people's expectation was that Jesus would save them from those on the outside (their Roman oppressors) when in reality was their own corruption that they needed rescuing from. In what way has this chapter spoken to you this week?