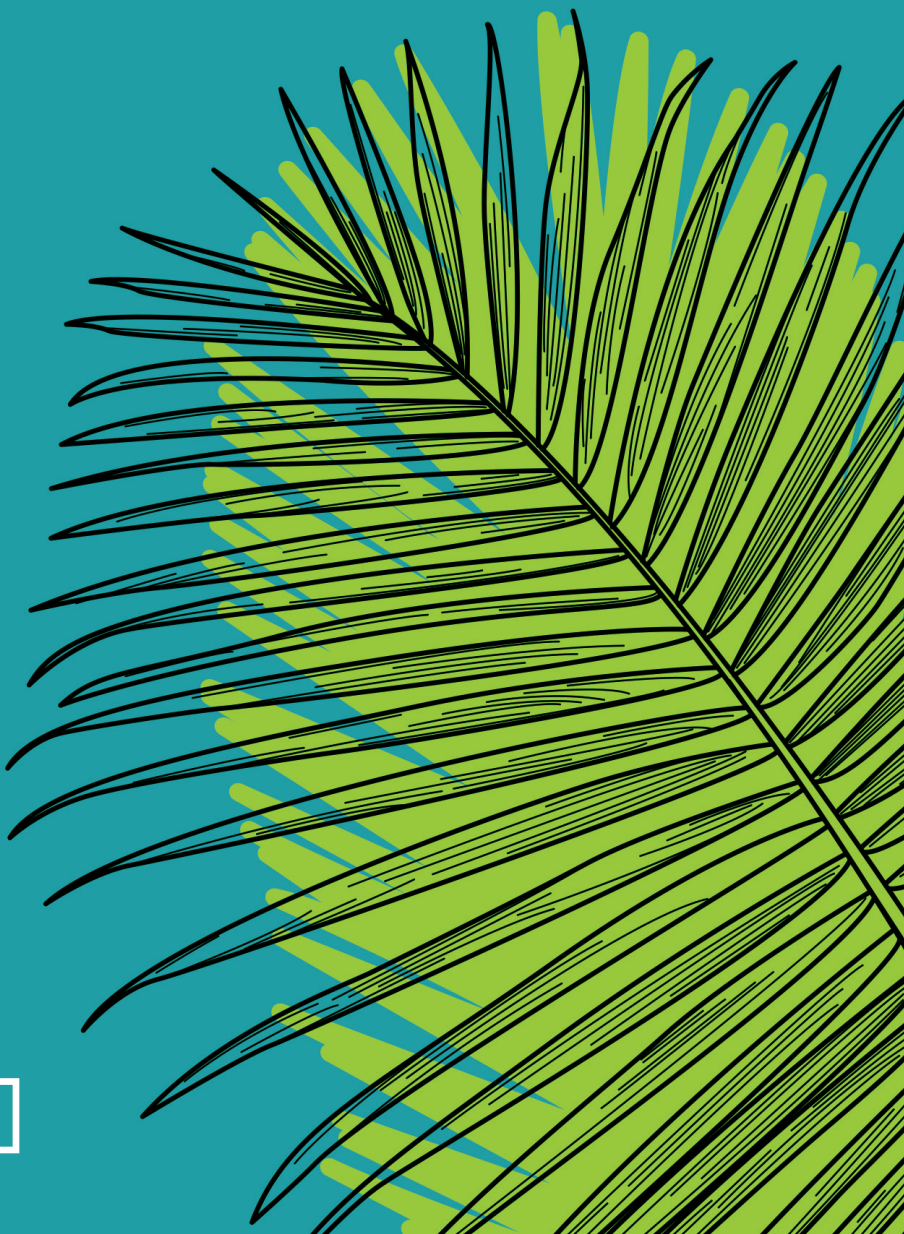


# The Big Reveal

Palm Sunday



MARCH 24-26, 2018



# Servant-King

This week we're celebrating Palm Sunday and learning what it means to lead like Jesus, as a servant-king.

## FIRST WATCH THE VIDEO

[NorthlandChurch.net/Studies](https://NorthlandChurch.net/Studies)

Afterward have someone read the discussion questions in the "Hear God's Story" section and start the conversation.



## Share Your Story

Begin by praying together. This should be a brief, simple prayer in which you invite God to give you insight as you study. You can pray for specific requests at the end of your time together or stop momentarily to pray if a particular situation comes up during your discussion.

*Then begin your time together by discussing the following questions.*

- What are some of the traits you associate with a leader?
- What are some of the traits you associate with a servant?
- What makes it hard to imagine a leader and a servant being the same person?

## Hear God's Story and Create a New Story

### READ MATTHEW 21:1-11 (NIV) AND LUKE 19:37-40 (NIV)

- As Jesus entered Jerusalem, how did the crowds welcome Him?
- Why did the crowds call Jesus their king?
- How did the religious leaders respond to the praise the crowd offered Jesus?

### READ LUKE 22:14-30 (NIV)

- How did Jesus compare the way He ruled with the way of the earthly kings (vv. 24-27)?
- How did Jesus tell us that we should lead?
- During Jesus' arrival to Jerusalem, the crowds treated Him like a king. Why did they treat Him that way? What qualities or characteristics about Jesus made the crowd identify Him as their king?
- What are the qualities of Jesus that are most attractive to you?
- Just days after Palm Sunday, those crowds abandoned Jesus. Jesus was arrested and brought before the Roman governor, Pilate. And when the people were given the chance

to free Jesus, instead, they cried out, “Crucify him!” (John 19:15, NIV). Why do you think they turned on Jesus?

- What did the crowds in Jerusalem misunderstand about Jesus’ role as King of kings? What are the qualities of Jesus that are difficult for you to understand?
- What are places in life where you’re currently leading? What would it look like for you to lead “like the one who serves” (Luke 22:26, NIV).

***Give each person an opportunity to share prayer requests.***

## **Find Your Story in God’s Story**

If you feel God is nudging you to go deeper, take some time between now and our next discussion to dig into His Word. Explore the Bible passages related to this session’s theme on your own, jotting your reflections in a journal or in this study guide. Want to go deeper? Select a few verses and try paraphrasing them: writing them in your own words. If you like, share them with the group the next time you meet.

**On that first Palm Sunday, the church gathered to celebrate Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem. The crowds cheered and shouted, “Hosanna!” which meant something close to “Hooray, we’re saved!” But we learn by the actions of the crowds over the next days — abandoning, betraying, persecuting, denying and then killing Jesus — that the people didn’t understand what Jesus had come to save them from. And we learn that the crowds didn’t grasp the real nature of the Kingdom of God or the real nature of the King.**

### **READ JOHN 3:1-21 (NIV)**

- What does it take to see the Kingdom of God? What does it take to enter the Kingdom of God?
- How is the Kingdom of God different from any kingdom on earth?
- What did Jesus come to save people from?
- What are some differences between how Jesus worked to save the world and how other leaders try to save their people?

### **READ PHILIPPIANS 2:5-11 (NIV)**

- What was Jesus’ “very nature” (v. 6)? What kind of power and authority did Jesus have, accordingly?
- What did Jesus do with His power and authority, according to verses 7 and 8? Why did Jesus humble Himself? (See John 3.)
- Where can you set aside your own power, authority or leadership to serve and love someone else?