



A Renewal of Worship

April 10

Matthew 21:1-17

Object Lessons and Storytelling Ideas

- What does it mean to worship? What are the different forms of worship we see in this passage?
- Talk about why Jesus did what he did in the temple - what is righteous anger?
- What does a king do? What does a king need to be a king?
- We don't throw down clothes or palm branches anymore to welcome a king or queen to our city. How do we get ready for a royal visit? If possible, show a video depicting a royal visit.

Discussion Ideas and Questions

- Jesus quotes Isaiah 56:7 - "My house will be called a house of prayer." After Jesus' death and resurrection, God's 'house' isn't the temple but rather the people that choose to believe in him (Heb. 3:6; 1 Cor. 3:16; 1 Pet. 2:5). What does it mean for us to be 'a house of prayer'?
- Jesus is coming into Jerusalem the same way that King Solomon did when he was about to become king. Jesus is acting like their king and messiah, reminding them of Solomon. Jesus wanted to be their king, but the way he did things was not what the people were expecting. Are we letting Jesus be king his way in us?
- How are the people welcoming Jesus into the city worshipping him?

At Home Connections

- In this passage, one way the people worshipped was by speaking truth about who God is. Create a poem together, or an acrostic using the alphabet or a word of your choice, where each line speaks truth about who God is.
- Spend time in worship as a family - through music, prayer, recounting God's faithfulness to your family, creating a poster of the attributes of God or the things that are true about God.
- Buy some palm branches at the local florist, or make some out of paper, and lay them out on the walkway to your front door. Discuss as a family how you are preparing your hearts for Good Friday and Easter.