

Sunday, April 5, 2020 - "Give It Up - Week 4: Expectations - Doug Kempton"

Key Passages: Matthew 21:1-11, John 16:32-33, 2 Corinthians 4:18

- Feel free to read the passage(s) out loud as a group
- Allow the group to share freely about what stood out to them from the passage or from Sunday's message

Main Ideas

- Matthew 21:1-11 Context
 - Jerusalem was a crowded city (about 40,000 BUT went up to 250,000 during observed feasts)
 - This scene happens when all of those people were there to celebrate Passover (when God spared the Israelites)
- This whole series: week 1 - fear, week 2 - control, week 3 - comfort, week 4 - EXPECTATIONS
 - There is a worldly way to respond to these pitfalls and there is a Spirit way to respond to them
 - They are all interwoven and interact with each other
- Triumphal Entry continued
 - Hosanna = finally we are saved, the messiah is here
 - Jesus does all that he was prophesied to do, BUT not in the way that they expected
 - They wanted to be delivered and free from oppression but when he didn't do what they hoped → "Crucify him!"
- When our expectations of what God will do doesn't line up with our reality → crisis of faith
 - When you expect A and you get B, there is always FALLOUT
 - The fallout is internally, relationally (with others), and in our relationship with God
 - In this season we were expecting A but because of the virus and everything included with it we got B
- With your C-group
 - What are the expectations you have had to let go of in this unusual season?
 - What is the internal, relational, spiritual fallout of the loss?
- John 16:32-33
 - We need to adjust our expectations
 - The only way we can navigate disappointments and lost expectations is with our eyes fixed on eternity and Jesus
 - 2 Corinthians 4:18
- Everything that the people of Israel wanted was temporal (liberty, power, worldly comfort)
- Are we fixing our eyes on what we expect and want to on Jesus and eternity with Him?

Questions (Feel free to use all of these, some of these, or none of these)

1. What are the expectations you have had to let go of in this unusual season?
2. What is the internal, relational, spiritual fallout of this loss?
3. How is God calling you to adjust your expectations?
4. What are the one or two ways you can fix your eyes on Jesus and eternity in this season?
5. How has fixing your eyes on Jesus helped you to navigate disappointment and unmet expectations in the past?
6. What is God inviting you into as a result of this passage or sermon?

****15 Minutes with God Reading Plan-**

Mon: Isaiah 50:4-9a Tues: Psalm 31:9-16 Wed: Philippians 2:5-11 Thurs: John 11:1-45 Fri: Matthew 27

Songs from the weekend: [Glorious - *BJ Putnam*] - Surrounded (How I Fight My Battles) - *Upperroom* - [Everlasting God - *William Murphy*] - [Made A Way - *Travis Greene*]