



Life Group Discussion Guide

March 16 – Mark 11

Public Display of a King – Living to True Expectations

Life Group Leaders,

During our *100 Days with Jesus*, you will have two approach options to guide your group in studying Sunday's text. We encourage you to try both methods over the next few months.

1. **Discussion Questions** – Each week, you'll receive a set of questions related to the text. If you choose this option, feel free to select the questions that best fit your group's needs and dynamics.
2. **SEEDS Discovery Bible Study** – This method introduces a Bible study format designed to empower participants to engage deeply with Scripture. The goal is to equip your group members with a practical tool for exploring the Bible with others, aligning with our mission to *Advance the Kingdom* with Jesus.

Both options are designed to enrich your group's experience. Experiment with each to discover what works best for your group. Thank you for leading and serving so well!

Discussion Questions:

Opening Reflection

1. Have you ever attended a celebratory parade, such as for the Royals' World Series or the Chiefs' Super Bowl win? What was it like to experience the excitement in person? (If not, think of any parade or public celebration.)
2. Read **Mark 11:8-10**.
 - Why do you think the crowd was so excited to see Jesus enter Jerusalem on a donkey?
 - Knowing how quickly the public turned against Him, what do you think changed in just a few days that led to His crucifixion?

Mark 11:1-10 --- Clarifying Your Expectation of the Messiah

3. Who or what are you following? (*This is meant for personal reflection—consider writing down your answers before discussing.*)
 - Who are the top three influences in your life based on: a) Where you invest your time; b) Where you invest your money; c) The "voice in your head" (who or what most influences your decisions, emotions, and actions)?
 - Consider these categories for reflection:

- Social media influences (Facebook, LinkedIn, YouTube, etc.)
 - News sources (CNN, Fox News, ABC, etc.)
 - Political figures
 - Workplace influences (boss, colleagues, mentors)
 - Financial advisors or business leaders
 - Spiritual influences (Jesus, Bible, pastor, faith community)
 - Family members
 - Other personal influences
4. Is your current pattern of "following" aligned in a spiritually healthy way?
 - Are there any influences you need to change?
 - What is one practical step you can take this week to realign your focus on Jesus?

Mark 11:15-19 --- Clarifying Your Expectation of God's House

5. Read **Mark 11:15-18**, Isaiah 56:7, and Jeremiah 7:11.
6. How do you recognize Jesus as King in your worship?
7. Has worship become more about convenience than commitment?
8. Are there any areas of your life where you are choosing to submit to God, even when it is difficult?
9. Where in your spiritual life has your connection to God become routine rather than intentional?

Mark 11:22-26 --- Clarifying Your Expectation of God's People

10. Can you share an example of a time when trusting in God's plan worked out better than your own?
11. Who in your life do you need to forgive?
 - Can you take a step toward forgiving them right now, before your next prayer? (See Matthew 18:22.)
 - If you're struggling with forgiveness, how can you make it a prayer request?

Mark 11:27-33 --- What Authority Have You Given Jesus In Your Life?

12. Am I more focused on appearing fruitful or actually being fruitful?
13. What am I asking God for guidance about? (How does this connect to who/what I am following?)
14. What am I truly seeking in my life? (How does this reflect my priorities and influences?)
15. What level of authority have I given Jesus in my life—just in earthly matters, in eternal matters, or both?

Application: Living Under Jesus' Authority

16. What are two practical things you can do this week to better understand and cherish Jesus' full authority over your life?

SEEDS Bible Study:

The Discovery Method works most effectively in small groups of three to four people. For larger gatherings, consider breaking into smaller groups to encourage deeper discussion. Here's a simple format to follow:

- **Form Small Groups:** Divide the larger group into smaller groups of three to four people.
- **Pose Questions:** Present one question at a time for the smaller groups to discuss. Allow a few minutes for meaningful conversation.
- **Share Insights:** Invite groups to share their thoughts with the larger group, if they feel led. This step fosters collective learning and reflection.
- **Repeat for Additional Questions:** Continue the process with the next question, following the same structure.
- **Close in Prayer:** Conclude the session with prayer, either within the smaller groups or together as a large group.

This approach encourages participation, reflection, and shared learning while keeping the conversation focused and engaging.

Discussion Questions:

Share

- What are you grateful for?
- What is stressing you out?

Explore

- What stood out to you from the sermon?
- Read the text twice (Select a portion of this week's text to focus on for your group's discussion.)
- Retell the passage in your own words.

Examine

- What questions, observations, and thoughts do you have about this passage?
- What does this text say about God, Jesus, and humanity?

Do It – Either alone or with others in the group.

- If the text is true, what are you sensing God saying to you?
- Write an "I will" statement.
- What does that look like for you?

Seek God's Kingdom

- **Tell:** Is there someone in your life you can share this text/truth with?
- **Give:** Is there someone in your life that you can serve this week?
- **Pray:** Close in prayer: God, thank You for planting SEEDS in us so we can share those SEEDS with others as we Advance the Kingdom!