TODAY'S READING: John 12:9-19

- JOHN 12:12-13

THE NEXT DAY THE GREAT CROWD COME ΤΗΔΤ HAD FOR THE **FESTIVAL** HEARD THAT JESUS WAS ON HIS WAY TO JERUSALEM. THEY TOOK PALM BRANCHES AND WENT OUT TO MEET HIM, SHOUTING, "HOSANNA!" "BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD!" "BLESSED IS THE KING OF ISRAEL!"

SUN APR 10

DAY ONE PALM SUNDAY

When Jesus rode into Jerusalem sitting on a donkey, it was the first time since raising Lazarus from the dead that he'd shown his face in the city. The story of Lazarus's resurrection had circulated so many considered Jesus to be a celebrity. Everyone wanted to get a selfie with Jesus. They went out to meet Him and received him like a King. Well, not everyone, the religious leaders plotted to have Jesus killed.

Surprisingly, Jesus would embrace death and reject the coronation-like shouts of the crowd. He would embrace death in order to conquer death. As he rode into Jerusalem, the people cried, "Our King has come!" They praised Jesus because of His victory over Lazarus's death. But ironically, Jesus wasn't coming to claim his crown on account of Lazarus's death and resurrection, but on account of his own.

- Pastor Jonathan Smith



Q As Jesus rides into your life, how can you welcome Him as King over all of our lives, not just the areas where you have an obvious need?

FROM STEPHANIE JONES -NEXTGEN TEAM LEAD:

Families, Try this at home!

Have every member in your family trace their hand and cut it out. Once each family member has cut out their hand, have each person write one thing they praise Jesus for ("I praise Jesus for _____")

Optional:

Continue to add as the week goes on to create a palm leaf with all cut-out hands.
