Recognize Jesus as the true King and Judge and offer true worship and prayer through a relationship of faith in him.

Overview

This week we walked through the first half of Mark chapter 11. In this passage we read about Jesus' triumphal entry, his cleansing of the temple, and the story of the fig tree. In this sermon we see Jesus fulfill prophecy and we learned more about our relationship with him, the faith he gives us, and what it is to worship. As Jesus rides in to town on a donkey, we learned the significance of this entrance. The true king who brings salvation had come (Zec 9:9), the Jewish people should have expected this. In his entering and cleansing of the temple we saw Jesus pass judgement on the "worship" that was happening there (Mal 3:5). In the story of the fig tree, that brackets the temple cleansing, we saw Jesus act out his teaching of faith and prayer. In the sermon Pastor Lenard taught us that Jesus seeks true worshipers with whom he can have a relationship. We also learned that there are only two options for us when it comes to Jesus, we either reject him or accept him as our true King.

"Prayer is about God accomplishing His will on earth, not about you accomplishing your will in heaven. The ultimate purpose of prayer is God and His glory, not you and your needs. Prayer is not about prayer itself. It is not about the answers you may get to your prayers. And it's definitely not about you. It is about God. True prayer is God-centered." (H.B. Charles)

Outline

- The True King (v1-10): Zechariah 9:9
- The True Judge (v11): Malachi 3:1-5 & 4:5-6, 1 Peter 4:17
- True Worship (v12-21): Isaiah 56:7, Jeremiah 7:11, John 4:23-24, Hebrews 9:26 & 10:22,
- True Prayer (v22-25): Habakuk 2:4, Hebrews 11:6

Discussion Questions

- 1. The Jewish people missed out on welcoming their true king when they should have been ready for him. Likewise, as believers we await Christ's return. What does it mean to be ready for Jesus' return as a believer?
- 2. Pastor Lenard pointed out that Jesus Judged the worship that was occurring in the temple. What does it mean to worship in Spirit and truth?
- 3. In verse 25 we are told that our prayer is affected by our negative relationships with others.
 - a. Can you share a time when you felt that your prayers were not heard? What did you learn in that time?
 - b. Who in your life to do you need to forgive?
- 4. Was there anything else that you would like to discuss from the sermon or the passage?