

The Resurrection Life

In the Shadow of Broken Expectations

John 12:12-18

MAIN IDEAS

1. The promised Messiah was understood to be a ruler of the nations.
2. Palm Sunday is a reasonable response from a nation poised to be set free.
3. How will you respond in the disappointment of unrealized expectations?

Look up Genesis 49:10; Numbers 24:17, 19; Psalm 2:7-9; and Isaiah 42:1; 61:1-6. Describe what the promised Messiah will do.

Read Luke 4:14-21. How could this event start to grow an expectation of a warrior king in the minds of the listeners?

Look up Zechariah 9:9; Psalm 118:26; John 11:38-44; and 12:12-18. How do you think Jesus' entry into Jerusalem was viewed in light of scripture and the recent event?

Look up Matthew 26:55-56; 69-75; 27:1-5 and Luke 23:44-56. Why do these actions seem to make sense in light of the disciples' expectations?

PERSONAL RESPONSE

What is the definition of "expectation" and how do we come to have them?

Think back to a time when you had an expectation that wasn't met. How did you respond? How did you feel towards God, others, or the situation?

Does God's word and character shape your expectations? If not, why not? If yes, how have they changed your responses to broken expectations?

What are the opportunities in dealing with broken expectations?

Pray:

- Confess/pour out to God your actions and feelings around broken and unmet expectations.
- Give thanks to God for His comfort in disappointing situations, 2 Corinthians 1:3-4.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to give you a godly understanding of your broken expectations.
- Ask God to strengthen you as you seek to respond to broken expectations in a way that honors Him.

GROUP RESPONSE

Is there a difference between a personal response versus a group response in dealing with broken expectations? What are the potential dangers or blessings?

How can we encourage one another as the body of Christ at DEC towards the blessings of broken expectations?

REPRODUCE

If you're dealing with a broken expectation, seek the wisdom and comfort of other Christ followers who have gone through a similar experience. Pray together.

If you see a brother or sister in a disappointing situation, go to them and offer prayer and comfort. Seek God's face together.

KEY VERSES

- John 12:12-18
- Genesis 49:10
- Isaiah 61:1-6
- Psalm 118:26
- Matthew 26:69-75
- Numbers 24:17, 19
- Psalm 2:7-9
- Luke 4:14-21
- John 11:38-44
- Matthew 27:1-5
- Isaiah 42:1
- Zechariah 9:9
- Matthew 26:55-56
- Luke 23:44-56

