

## LUKE 19:28-48 NAS

28 After He had said these things, He was going on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. 29 When He approached Bethphage and Bethany, near the mount that is called Olivet, He sent two of the disciples, 30 saying, "Go into the village ahead of you; there, as you enter, you will find a colt tied on which no one yet has ever sat; untie it and bring it here. 31 If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' you shall say, 'The Lord has need of it.'" 32 So those who were sent went away and found it just as He had told them. 33 As they were untying the colt, its owners said to them, "Why are you untying the colt?" 34 They said, "The Lord has need of it." 35 They brought it to Jesus, and they threw their coats on the colt and put Jesus on it.

36 As He was going, they were spreading their coats on the road. 37 As soon as He was approaching, near the descent of the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the miracles which they had seen, 38 shouting: "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord; Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!" 39 Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Him, "Teacher, rebuke Your disciples." 40 But Jesus answered, "I tell you, if these become silent, the stones will cry out!" 41 When He approached Jerusalem, He saw the city and wept over it, 42 saying, "If you had known in this day, even you, the things which make for peace! But now they have been hidden from your eyes.

43 For the days will come upon you when your enemies will throw up a barricade against you, and surround you and hem you in on every side, 44 and they will level you to the ground and your children within you, and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, because you did not recognize the time of your visitation." 45 Jesus entered the temple and began to drive out those who were selling, 46 saying to them, "It is written, 'And My house shall be a house of prayer,' but you have made it a robbers' den." 47 And He was teaching daily in the temple; but the chief priests and the scribes and the leading men among the people were trying to destroy Him, 48 and they could not find anything that they might do, for all the people were hanging on to every word He said.

*The people expected Jesus to bring peace and rule as king in a way that they could understand. Jesus grieved over this because he knew they would suffer and he longed for them to see him as the true King through his suffering. Like Jesus, it's okay to grieve over shattered expectations and suffering.*

### QUESTION 1

Take a moment and express any grief you're feeling over suffering or shattered expectations.

### QUESTION 2

Jesus is the King despite the way the world looks right now. What questions does that bring up for you? What truths can you rely on at this time?

## ISAIAH 52:7-53:12 NAS

### Chapter 52

7 How lovely on the mountains  
Are the feet of him who brings good  
news, Who announces peace  
And brings good news of happiness,  
Who announces salvation, And says to  
Zion, "Your God reigns!"

8 Listen! Your watchmen lift  
up their voices, They shout joyfully  
together;

For they will see with their own eyes  
When the Lord restores Zion.

9 Break forth, shout joyfully together,  
You waste places of Jerusalem; For the  
Lord has comforted His people, He has  
redeemed Jerusalem.

10 The Lord has bared His holy arm  
In the sight of all the nations, That all  
the ends of the earth may see The  
salvation of our God.

11 Depart, depart, go out from there,  
Touch nothing unclean; Go out of the  
midst of her, purify yourselves, You who  
carry the vessels of the Lord.

12 But you will not go out in haste, Nor  
will you go as fugitives For the Lord will  
go before you, And the God of  
Israel will be your rear guard.

13 Behold, My servant will prosper, He  
will be high and lifted up and greatly  
exalted.

14 Just as many were astonished at  
you, My people, So His appearance was  
marred more than any man and His form  
more than the sons of men.

15 Thus He will sprinkle many nations,  
Kings will shut their mouths on account of  
Him; For what had not been told them  
they will see, and what they had not  
heard they will understand.

### Chapter 53

1 Who has believed our message? And to  
whom has the arm of the Lord been  
revealed?

2 For He grew up before Him like a tender  
shoot, and like a root out of parched  
ground; He has no stately form or majesty  
that we should look upon Him, nor  
appearance that we should be attracted  
to Him.

3 He was despised and forsaken of men,  
a man of sorrows and acquainted with  
grief; and like one from whom men hide  
their face He was despised, and we did  
not esteem Him.

4 Surely our griefs He Himself bore,  
And our sorrows He carried; yet we  
ourselves esteemed Him stricken, smitten  
of God, and afflicted.

5 But He was pierced through for our  
transgressions, He was crushed for our  
iniquities; the chastening for our well-  
being fell upon Him, and by His scourging  
we are healed.

6 All of us like sheep have gone astray,  
Each of us has turned to his own way;  
But the Lord has caused the iniquity of us  
all to fall on Him.

7 He was oppressed and He was  
afflicted, Yet He did not open His  
mouth; Like a lamb that is led to  
slaughter, And like a sheep that is  
silent before its shearers, So He did not  
open His mouth.

8 By oppression and judgment He was  
taken away; and as for His generation,  
who considered that He was cut off  
out of the land of the living for the  
transgression of my people, to whom  
the stroke was due?

9 His grave was assigned with wicked  
men, yet He was with a rich man in His  
death, because He had done no  
violence, nor was there any deceit in  
His mouth.

10 But the Lord was pleased to crush  
Him, putting Him to grief; If He would  
render Himself as a guilt offering, He  
will see His offspring, He will  
prolong His days, and the good  
pleasure of the Lord will prosper in His  
hand.

11 As a result of the anguish of His soul,  
He will see it and be satisfied; by His  
knowledge the Righteous One, my  
Servant, will justify the many, as He will  
bear their iniquities.

12 Therefore, I will allot Him a portion  
with the great, and He will divide the  
booty with the strong; because He  
poured out Himself to death, and was  
numbered with the transgressors; yet  
He Himself bore the sin of many, and  
interceded for the transgressors.

*This passage proclaims that God himself is coming to rescue his people. This is good news, but it will happen in a surprising way. God's appointed one, the Messiah, will enter into the suffering and death of our world. There's a lot of suffering and pain going on in our world right now, but God enters into our suffering. He experiences it personally and is present with us and all those who suffer.*

### QUESTION 1

Write down or speak out loud where you see suffering and pain in the world and your community right now.

### QUESTION 2

Now pray or speak out loud these same instances again, taking in the truth that God is present in those situations and suffers with us.

## JOHN 12:12-33 NAS

12 On the next day the large crowd who had come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, 13 took the branches of the palm trees and went out to meet Him, and began to shout, "Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel." 14 Jesus, finding a young donkey, sat on it; as it is written, 15 "Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your King is coming, seated on a donkey's colt." 16 These things His disciples did not understand at the first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things were written of Him, and that they had done these things to Him. 17 So the people, who were with Him when He called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead, continued to testify about Him.

18 For this reason also the people went and met Him, because they heard that He had performed this sign. 19 So the Pharisees said to one another, "You see that you are not doing any good; look, the world has gone after Him." 20 Now there were some Greeks among those who were going up to worship at the feast; 21 these then came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida of Galilee, and began to ask him, saying, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." 22 Philip \*came and \*told Andrew; Andrew and Philip \*came and \*told Jesus. 23 And Jesus \*answered them, saying, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. 24 Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. 25 He who loves his life loses it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it to life eternal.

26 If anyone serves Me, he must follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also; if anyone serves Me, the Father will honor him. 27 "Now My soul has become troubled; and what shall I say, 'Father, save Me from this hour'? But for this purpose I came to this hour. 28 Father, glorify Your name." Then a voice came out of heaven: "I have both glorified it, and will glorify it again." 29 So the crowd of people who stood by and heard it were saying that it had thundered; others were saying, "An angel has spoken to Him." 30 Jesus answered and said, "This voice has not come for My sake, but for your sakes. 31 Now judgment is upon this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out. 32 And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all men to Myself." 33 But He was saying this to indicate the kind of death by which He was to die.

*Jesus' suffering was the way God's power and love was shown to the world. The cross shows us that God's ultimate response to human death and suffering was love, to die alongside us and for us, and to overcome death with his resurrection life. This is Jesus' upside-down Kingdom.*

### QUESTION 1

What is Jesus doing for others in this passage?

### QUESTION 2

Jesus calls his followers to do what he does. In what ways specifically can you suffer alongside others or serve and love others?