

#### When Jesus is God in the flesh to us personally:

- We allow Him to be **King** of our lives.
- Jesus wasn't the King they **wanted** but He's exactly the King they **needed**.

The next day the great crowd that had come for the (Passover) 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!" John 12:12-13 (NIV)

"Hosanna!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Blessed is the king of Israel!" John 12:13

But they shouted, 'Take Him away! Take Him away! Crucify Him!'... John 19:15 (NIV)

#### The King they wanted versus the King they needed:

- They wanted a King who would free them from Rome, not **sin**.

"Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" John 12:13

"We have no king but Caesar." John 19:15

6 For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin— Romans 6:6

#### Action Step:

Stop looking **around** you for what Jesus is addressing **within** you.

21 For it is from within, out of a person's heart, that evil thoughts come—sexual immorality, theft, murder, 22 adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly. Mark 7:21-22

- They wanted a King who would defend them, not **die for them**.

14 Jesus found a young donkey and rode on it, fulfilling the prophecy that said: 15 "Don't be afraid, people of Jerusalem. Look, your King is coming, riding on a donkey's colt." John 12:14-15

17 Carrying the cross by himself, he (*Jesus*) went to the place called Place of the Skull (in Hebrew, Golgotha).

18 There they nailed him to the cross... John 19:17-18

18 Christ suffered for our sins once for all time. He never sinned, but he died for sinners to bring you safely home to God. Peter 3:18

#### Action Step:

Reflect on the **cross** this week, don't rush past it.

- They wanted a King who would represent them, not **everyone**.

Pilate posted a sign on the cross that read, "Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews." 20 The place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and the sign was written in Hebrew, Latin, and Greek, so that many people could read it. John 19:19-20

16 "For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16

9 After this I saw a vast crowd, too great to count, from every nation and tribe and people and language, standing in front of the throne and before the Lamb. They were clothed in white robes and held palm branches in their hands. Revelation 7:9

#### Action Step:

Pray for someone **disconnected** from God by name this week.

- They wanted a King who would bring comfort to their lives, not **change to their hearts**.  
25 Those who love their life in this world will lose it. Those who care nothing for their life in this world will keep it for eternity. John 12:25

17 This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun! 2 Corinthians 5:17

#### Action Step:

Commit yourself to God's **transformation** process.

- They gave him a title on the cross, but not the **throne of their hearts**.



## TO CREATIVELY LOVE AND LEAD PEOPLE IN A GROWING RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.

#### Questions that can be used in Connection Groups:

*These questions also work well for personal time with God.*

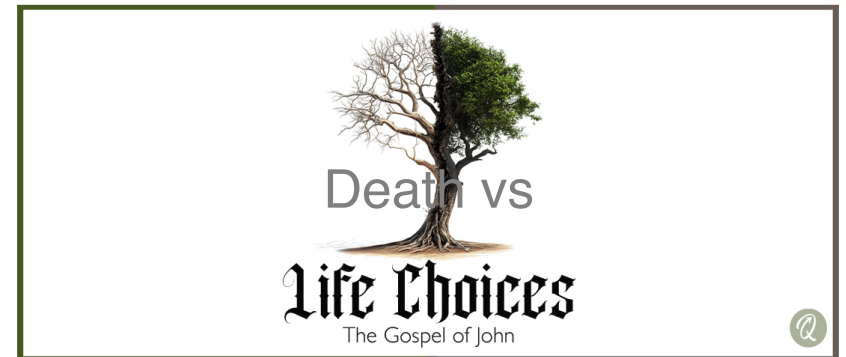
- What scripture and/or point spoke most to you from the Talk on Sunday? Explain.
- In John 12 the crowd celebrates Jesus, but in John 19 they reject Him. What do you think changed in their hearts—and where do you see that same tendency in your own life?
- What does it practically look like for Jesus to be King of our life—not just in belief, but in your daily decisions?
- They wanted a King who would free them from Rome, not sin. Where are we more focused on God fixing our situation instead of transforming our heart?
- Read Mark 7:21-22. Why is it so difficult to look inward instead of blaming outward circumstances or people? Is there one internal issue you sense God is calling you to face honestly?
- They wanted a King who would defend them, not die for them. Do you find yourself asking Jesus to protect and provide for your life more than you're surrendering your life to Him? What does reflecting on the cross change about how you see your struggles?
- They wanted a King who would represent them, not everyone. How can we unintentionally make Jesus "about us" instead of recognizing His heart for all people?
- They wanted a comfortable life, not changed heart. Where in your life are you choosing comfort over transformation right now? What would it look like to fully commit to God's transforming work in that area?

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Today's Talk..



**The King We Want  
Vs.  
The King We Need**

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Sunday, March 29th, 2026