The Life Challenge

I came that they may have life and have it abundantly. " John 10:10

Series: Glorify His Name Title: I Have Come to Save Speaker: Garth Borthistle

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WARM - UP

The intensity surrounding Jesus as the crowds swelled for the Passover celebration in Jerusalem was intense. People were responding to Jesus in many different ways based on their belief or anger or fascination or deep love for him. As you get ready to discuss the passage where are you currently at with Jesus? Maybe you just believe and get on with your day or you have a close walk with him. Maybe you are struggling with how Jesus fits into your life, your work, or your family. As we will discover it doesn't matter where we are with him right now. Jesus comes not to judge but to save. How do you want to connect or reconnect with Jesus today? Share your sense of where you are currently at with the group.

DISCUSSION

- 1. In verses 1-11 look at how people respond to Jesus. Mary with the perfume, Judas with his response, the motivation of the crows who learn Jesus is in town, and Chief Priest's desire to kill him. Why is there such a different response? Why does the presence of Jesus cause some to follow and others to reject?
- 2. The next day (what we call Palm Sunday) the crowd gets larger and more vocal in its interest and worship of Jesus. What is motivating them to do this? It's clear the command is to report Jesus to the Pharisees if he is seen, yet the crowd disobeys the religious leaders and openly worships Jesus. What jumps out to you as you read this passage (verses 12-19)?

DISCUSSION

- 3. Jesus reminds them about judgment on the prince of this world. Read Eph 6:12 along with verses 20-36 of John 12. Is there a difference between the judgment of the evil one versus the judgment of mankind? One has happened already and one is going to happen. How do we live now in the in-between time?
- 4. Verses 47 & 48 talks about a judgment at the end of time, but Jesus is not doing that now. He is here to SAVE. How does this change how you view people now? Are we too judgmental of each other? on non-Christians? Does Jesus' words that he is here to save not judge change your current view?

APPLICATION

This passage shows us that people react to God in different ways. We've talked about what keeps you on track to have a loving view of others, knowing that some will reject God and others embrace him. We've discussed who the real enemy is and how it can help you see people differently. What's your takeaway from this discussion and passage?