

SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE



**PRINCE
OF PEACE**
Called to Connect



From Powerful to Powerless

April 13 & 14, 2019

God's idea of power and the world's idea of power are radically different. The world perceives power as having control over others, being in charge. Throughout Holy Week Jesus reveals that true power in the Kingdom is the power of submission, of letting go. One of the great paradoxes of the Kingdom is that our greatest power is found in our powerlessness, because it is in our powerlessness that the power and glory of God shine. That's what St. Paul meant when he said, "When I am weak, then I am strong." (2 Corinthians 12:9)

SCRIPTURE TEXT : LUKE 19:28-44

Read the scripture text together as a group.

BACKGROUND INFO

"But as for these enemies of mine who did not want me to be king over them—bring them here and slaughter them in my presence." These words precede Luke's version of Jesus' triumphal entry, and they create a chilling prelude to the story, especially when you consider that Luke describes Jesus' entry as that of a king. This event is reported in each of the gospels and is read in church every year on Palm Sunday. In other words most of us are very familiar with the story...and that poses a couple of dangers. One danger is certainly that we assume we know what the story says and means and therefore close ourselves off from what God might say anew to us through this story. The second danger is that we may unknowingly read details into Luke's account that are actually from one of the other gospels, details that Luke doesn't include. So we would do well to read carefully.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What task does Jesus give to the disciples? What problems might they have encountered in such a job?
- What were the people expecting Jesus to do upon arrival in Jerusalem?
- How do you think Jesus would be received if he rode into our town today?
- What person or group of people do you weep for?

APPLICATION: This week, ask God to see Holy Week through new eyes. Spend intentional time in the daily devotions and see what God wants to teach you.