

WEEK 2
LESSON OUTLINE

Invited

BIG IDEA

We're invited to celebrate who Jesus is.

BIBLE

Luke 19:28-40; Psalm 126:2-3; 1 John 1:5

ABOUT THIS WEEK

Birthday parties are an annual chance for us to celebrate the people we love and their presence in our lives. This week, we'll take a look at how Jesus was celebrated as a king when he entered Jerusalem. Even though most of these people had not met Jesus yet, they knew he was worth celebrating, and at Easter, **we're invited to celebrate who Jesus is.**

WHAT?

There are plenty of opportunities to throw a celebration. We can celebrate the end of school, spring break, or passing a big test. And if someone throws you a party, it feels even more amazing. Even if the reason you're being celebrated is pretty small, it still feels special! But what if an achievement has changed the entire world for the better? What kind of celebration could we throw then? There's a story in the life of Jesus in which we see what a celebration like this looks like.

SO WHAT?

In Luke 19, we see a moment when Jesus is celebrated when he enters the capital city of Jerusalem. People in Jerusalem had heard stories about Jesus and waited for him to show up in their city. When he arrived, people threw a massive homecoming parade for him. The disciples didn't organize this celebration. People recognized Jesus and chose to celebrate him right then and there. At this moment, all but one group of people, the religious leaders called the Pharisees, were all in on Jesus.

Since the beginning, God's people have written about the good things in their lives. Psalm 126 is the lyrics to a song that tells of all the good things God has done. It says that God's people were filled with laughter and joy. They celebrated the work of God because it was a sign of who God was. The early followers of Jesus saw that God was at work in their lives. They saw God in Jesus and knew precisely what God was like. Through Jesus' life on Earth, they saw that God was worth throwing a party for because we're invited to celebrate who Jesus is.

NOW WHAT?

We're invited to celebrate who Jesus is, and here are a few ways we can do that this week.

- **WE CELEBRATE JESUS BY THANKING HIM:** Take a moment to think about who Jesus is to you. Start by asking a few questions. What do you know about Jesus? What teaching of his do you most relate to? What changes have you experienced since you started following Jesus?
- **WE CELEBRATE JESUS BY LIVING LIKE HIM:** You can celebrate Jesus through how you live your life. Living like Jesus is about shaping your life to resemble Jesus' nature and character. As you see the parts of Jesus worth celebrating, you can build those habits and characteristics into your life.

Now that we've seen a glimpse of who Jesus is and what he's all about, **we're invited to celebrate who Jesus is.**