



Palm Sunday, April 02, 2023
Sermon Study Guide
Pastor Brian Bales
The Original Influencer:
King – Mark 11:1-11

Now when they drew near to Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples ² and said to them, “Go into the village in front of you, and immediately as you enter it you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it. ³ If anyone says to you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ say, ‘The Lord has need of it and will send it back here immediately.’” ⁴ And they went away and found a colt tied at a door outside in the street, and they untied it. ⁵ And some of those standing there said to them, “What are you doing, untying the colt?” ⁶ And they told them what Jesus had said, and they let them go. ⁷ And they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and he sat on it. ⁸ And many spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields. ⁹ And those who went before and those who followed were shouting, “Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! ¹⁰ Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David! Hosanna in the highest!” ¹¹ And he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple. And when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve. Mark 11:1-11(ESV)

A Life Application Study Guide

James 1:22-25 tells us to put into practice what we are discovering in God’s word.

INTRODUCTION

Influencer – noun - US / ˈɪn.flu.ən.sə/ someone who affects or changes the way that other people behave.

LESSONS TO EXPLORE

1. A Kingly Command
2. A Sincere Risk
3. An Appropriate Response
4. A Triumphal Entry
5. Truths to Consider

DISCUSSION POINTS

1. Name the people most influential in your life (past or present) other than Jesus.
 - a. How well do you know them and how have they shifted your thinking or behavior?
 - b. If you follow them only on social media, do you really know who they are and what they represent? How many followers do they have and how does that impact their influence on you?

- c. Who are the people that you influence and what responsibility do you have as an influencer? How does your *faith life* guide your efforts to influence?

2. The disciples knew who Jesus was, but there were times when it seemed as if they were not fully aware that He was God.
 - a. When Jesus commanded the wind and the waves to be calm, the disciples who were with Him in the boat were struck speechless. What do you imagine they were thinking in this story in Mark, when He commands them to go and take someone else's colt? (Brian compares this to taking someone's Mercedes without paying for it).

3. Consider other stories in the NT when Jesus gave instructions to the disciples (or others in the story) and the outcome was unexpected. Where do you see the trust and the obedience in each story?
 - a. "Bring me the boy with the 2 fish and 5 loaves and pass out the food to these 5000+ people and don't forget to gather the leftovers." Matthew 14:13-21

 - b. "Fill these jugs with water, now serve the wedding guests the *best* wine ever." John 2:1-11

c. "Get out of the boat Peter and walk on water." Matthew 14:22-31

d. "Lazarus, even though you've been dead for 4 days, walk out of the tomb." John 11:38-44

e. Pick up your mat and walk, even though your friends carried you here because you are paralyzed." Mark 2:11-12

The list is long but the outcome is this, Jesus' words and His name hold great power. How do His words impact you today?

4. As Jesus rode the colt into Jerusalem that day, how did the crowd respond to Him?

- c. What are the risks in not following Jesus? How will you think differently today about Jesus as *The Original Influencer*?

MAKING IT REAL

This week look closely at the people who influence you each day. If you choose to be one of the King's followers, how will you then influence others who are watching your life and following your lead?