

THE LONGWAY ROUND

5. On This Day

Start off with feedback from Sunday's message. What did those that were there - or those that have caught up online - take away from it? What encouraged them, what informed them and what challenged them?

Read Luke 19.28-48

41 As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it **42** and said, 'If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace – but now it is hidden from your eyes. **43** The days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment against you and encircle you and hem you in on every side. **44** They will dash you to the ground, you and the children within your walls. They will not leave one stone on another, because you did not recognise the time of God's coming to you.'

- A crowd draws a crowd. What main differences do you see between the two crowds – the crowd of followers and the crowd of onlookers? How did Jesus' followers express their faith?
- What does our church most look like – a company of followers or a crowd of bystanders? What would a church made up of many followers look like? How would it behave? What impact would it have? And how do we get to that point?
- The owners of the donkey were happy with the response – The Lord needs it. Do we view our resources, finances and possessions as fully at Jesus' disposal? What does it mean for us as 21st Century Christians to have Jesus as Lord – supreme sovereign, master? To what extent is Jesus your Lord? To what extent is he not?
- v42. 'if you had only known... on this day'. The majority of the people missed their opportunity for peace. Do you think there's a particular window of time that God gives people to respond to him? (Extra head scratcher – what would have happened if they *had* recognised Jesus? What would have happened with the crucifixion?)
- How can we use this Easter to share the good news with our friends?

Big Idea: All of us start off in the Crowd. But we can choose to journey with Jesus and become followers who make him our Lord and bring in his Kingdom.

Pray together in smaller groups. Pray for the ability to recognise God's coming to us. Pray for greater faith to become followers who put everything at the feet of Jesus. Pray for confidence and opportunities to invite friends to Metro Easter.