

## CVC SERMON GUIDE/LIFE GROUPS

### Ask:

- “Why are you here today—really?”

### Palm Sunday

- Jesus entering Jerusalem wasn’t peaceful—it was **charged**
- Two processions:
  - **Pontius Pilate** (power, empire, control)
  - **Jesus Christ** (humility, true kingship)

### Ask:

- What stands out to you about that contrast—power vs humility?

### “This Is an Invasion”

- This wasn’t a parade—it was a **kingdom invasion**
- A confrontation between:
  - Earthly power                      God’s kingdom                      And it *looked* like Jesus lost...

### Ask:

- Why do you think Jesus didn’t meet people’s expectations?
- Where do you see people today wanting a “different kind” of Jesus?

### Acts Connection: The Movement Explodes

- After Jesus’ death → seems over
- Then:
  - Spirit comes                      3,000 believe                      Healings, boldness, miracles
- The movement grows *even more dangerous*

### Key point:

This story didn’t end—it **continued**.

### Read Acts 4:23–31 and ask:

#### 1. Community

- Why did Peter and John go back to their people first?
- What does that say about the kind of community they had?

#### 2. Prayer Focus

- What do you notice about how they prayed?

- What did they NOT pray for?

### 3. Boldness vs Comfort

- Why didn't they ask for safety?
- Would you have prayed differently?

### Why Are You Here?

- If someone asked you, like Peter: "Why are you here?"—what would you say?

What if the real answer is:

**"I'm here because of King Jesus."**

### 1. SOAK (Scripture)

- Read part of a Gospel this week
- Ask:      What stands out?                      What challenges me?

### 2. PRAY TOGETHER

- Who could you pray with this week?
  - Friend?
  - Family?
  - Neighbor?

### 3. RE-IDENTIFY

- Replace:
  - "I'm just getting by"
  - with → "I'm here because of Jesus"
- Which of these feels most real for you right now?
- What's one step you'll actually take this week?

### Group Prayer

Pray in the pattern of Acts:

- Acknowledge God's power
- Be honest about fears
- Ask for:      Boldness              Opportunity              Spiritual impact

"God, help us live like we're really here because of You."