

Sermon Starter – A Different Understanding

Looking Back in Time

John 12:12-16

Between

Different understanding comes between the crowds and Jesus' lived experience
(John 12:12-16)

Time comes between us and a new understanding

The crowds who sing Psalm 118 as Jesus enters Jerusalem are proclaiming Jesus' identity as an ancestor of David, and that Jesus is King. Jesus presents an alternative view of the role and purpose of the Messiah King proclaimed in the Scriptures, an understanding different from the people's. How might an encounter with Jesus today challenge our understanding of Scripture?

The disciples look back at the events of John 12 and understand them differently. Throughout history, the church has needed to look back, remember, and gain new understanding of the Scriptures, God, and ourselves. How do we feel about new understandings or reinterpretations of Scripture? What are the challenges, gifts, dangers, and blessings that come with reexamining our understanding of Scripture, God, and ourselves?

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