



April 11 and 14
More than "Good" — Jesus as Divine King
Emilie Knauss

PRIMARY SCRIPTURE:

Luke 19:29-40

SECONDARY SCRIPTURE:

Zechariah 9:9

QUOTE:

Whether a religious leader is considered a prophet, sage or avatar, his (or her) status differs radically from what is ascribed to Jesus in the Bible. No other religion so highly esteems its founder or makes such titanic claims about him... The cumulative evidence [for the divinity of Jesus] singles Jesus out from all other religious figures. He entered the world supernaturally, accredited himself with unparalleled signs and wonders, possessed an impeccable character, made claims only befitting God himself, and died with the purpose of redeeming humanity. The best account of the historical facts is that he was who he said he was. If this is so, we should respond to him on his terms. — Doug Groothuis

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. The most important question we will have to wrestle with is the existence of God because every aspect of life stems from that. What are your thoughts on this? What has been your journey with this question so far?
2. Emilie shared a couple of stories about her friends: one is apathetic towards God, and the other was looking for all of the answers before she could believe in anything. Which one are you most like and why?
3. Emilie talked about some of her stereotypes and expectations of Jesus (blond-hair, blue-eyed, vending machine wizard, etc). What are yours? Where did they come from?
4. We are a week away from Easter Sunday. Before we celebrate Jesus' resurrection, we observe the events leading to his death. Palm Sunday is the moment where Jesus claims his kingdom and his identity as King as he enters Jerusalem on a baby donkey. How do you see Jesus in this story? How do your expectations from Question 3 compare to Jesus' true identity?
5. Emilie read an excerpt from her professor's textbook (see quote above). If Jesus was who he said he was, then we should respond to him on his terms. Is there anything stopping you from following him or trusting him?
6. Worshiping God is more than just singing music to God. Worship is expansive - it could be going for a walk, creating something, spending time with friends/family, reading, writing, playing, sitting in silence, studying, praying, listening, etc. What will you do this week to worship God? If you're in a place right now where you are trying to figure out what you believe, this still includes you. Sometimes the most beneficial thing you can do when you have doubts is to courageously worship God.