

SUNDAY STUDY | church on the drive

Scripture: Luke 19:28-48, Isaiah 52:7-53:12, John 12:12-33



Socially distant, spiritually connected - During this time when we have to keep a safe distance from each other, we want to be socially distant, but spiritually connected. In order to do that, we as a body of believers are all studying the same thing today! You are invited to take out a journal and record your thoughts through this bible study and share them with members of your community group and/or family, whether via telephone or in person. Today we are borrowing from our friends at The Bible Project.

1. Prayer

- a. Thank God for today and all that you get to enjoy as part of it
- b. Pray for people you love
- c. Pray for people you have trouble loving
- d. Ask God's help - for you, for our city, for our world
- e. Pray for our leaders - government and church
- f. Ask God to help you minister to those around you in the best possible way

2. Watch this video about the Kingdom of God: youtu.be/xmFPS0f-kzs

3. Read Luke 19:28-48

- a. The people expected Jesus to bring peace and rule as king in a way that they could understand. Jesus grieved over this because he knew they would suffer and he longed for them to see him as the true King through his suffering. Like Jesus, it's okay to grieve over shattered expectations and suffering.
- b. Take a moment and express any grief you're feeling over suffering or shattered expectations.
- c. Jesus is the King despite the way the world looks right now. **What questions does that bring up for you? What truths can you rely on at this time?**

4. Read Isaiah 52:7-53:12

- a. This passage proclaims that God himself is coming to rescue God's people. This is good news, but it will happen in a surprising way. God's appointed one, the Messiah, will enter into the suffering and death of our world. There's a lot of suffering and pain going on in our world right now, but God enters into our suffering. He experiences it personally and is present with us and all those who suffer.
- b. Write down or speak out loud where you see suffering and pain in the world and your community right now.
- c. Now pray or speak out loud these same instances again, taking in the truth that God is present in those situations and suffers with us.

5. **Read John 12:12-33**

a. Jesus's suffering was the way God's power and love was shown to the world. The cross shows us that God's ultimate response to human death and suffering was love, to die alongside us and for us, and to overcome death with his resurrection life. This is Jesus's upside-down Kingdom.

b. What is Jesus doing for others in this passage?

c. Jesus calls his followers to do what he does. **In what ways specifically can you suffer alongside others or serve and love others?**

6. **This week:** Look for ways to bring the Kingdom of God to earth to the people and situations around. Don't passively sit by and wait for things to happen! Pray to God to give you the strength to do the hard work of the Kingdom.