

# UNDONE

## 1. DOING

HVC, April 5, 2020

Mark 11:1-11, 15-18 (NLT)

What has your last week been like?

Any “God sightings”? How have you connected with God in this last week?

What’s your fear “barometer”? Do you find yourself fearing more or less as the weeks pass?

What are some of the ways you see others dealing with their fear?

Discuss this line from the sermon: “In a secular culture people are shocked when suffering happens because we are supposed to be immune to it.”

**Mark 11:1-3 (NLT)**

**As Jesus and his disciples approached Jerusalem, they came to the towns of Bethphage and Bethany on the Mount of Olives. Jesus sent two of them on ahead. “Go into that village over there,” he told them. “As soon as you enter it, you will see a young donkey tied there that no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks, ‘What are you doing?’ just say, ‘The Lord needs it and will return it soon.’”**

Has God ever asked you to do something that was inexplicable from a human perspective? How did you respond?

How much of God’s ways seem mysterious to you?

Jesus’ whole ministry has been building toward and culminates in this final week in Jerusalem. Luke 19:41 tells us that he wept as he approached the city—why was he crying? What other emotions might he have been experiencing?

Discuss: “Jesus was sad, but he doesn’t seem to be afraid.”

How might Jesus have known that this was the time to enter Jerusalem this way?

**Mark 11:4-6 (NLT)**

**The two disciples left and found the colt standing in the street, tied outside the front door. As they were untying it, some bystanders demanded, “What are you doing, untying that colt?” They said what Jesus had told them to say, and they were permitted to take it.**

Why might the bystanders have complied?

What do you think it was like for the disciples who went on this errand? When did its significance dawn on them?

**Mark 11:7-10 (NLT)**

***Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their garments over it, and he sat on it. Many in the crowd spread their garments on the road ahead of him, and others spread leafy branches they had cut in the fields. Jesus was in the center of the procession, and the people all around him were shouting, "Praise God!***

***Blessings on the one who comes in the name of the Lord!  
Blessings on the coming Kingdom of our ancestor David!  
Praise God in highest heaven!"***

What prompted the crowd to respond this way? (Read the messianic prophecy in Zechariah 9:9.)

What might the Jewish religious leaders or Roman authorities have thought of this procession?

What might it have been like for the disciples to see such an entrance for their leader?

**Mark 11:15-17 (NLT)**

***When they arrived back in Jerusalem, Jesus entered the Temple and began to drive out the people buying and selling animals for sacrifices. He knocked over the tables of the money changers and the chairs of those selling doves, and he stopped everyone from using the Temple as a marketplace. He said to them, "The Scriptures declare, 'My Temple will be called a house of prayer for all nations,' but you have turned it into a den of thieves."***

The temple was the center of Jewish religious observance, and this was during an important festival. How might various people have responded to

this outburst (i.e. the vendors, the pilgrims buying goods, the disciples, etc)?

Why might Jesus have done this now?

Jesus quotes Isaiah 56:7 and Jeremiah 7:11. Read those verses and some of their surrounding context. How does that Scripture inform your understanding of what happened?

**Mark 11:18 (NLT)**

***When the leading priests and teachers of religious law heard what Jesus had done, they began planning how to kill him. But they were afraid of him because the people were so amazed at his teaching.***

Why were the religious leaders so angry at Jesus? Why were they so threatened by him?

How was he a threat to the status quo?

Why were the people so amazed by Jesus' teaching? Where did his authority and knowledge come from?

Why the stark difference in the way those two groups responded to Jesus?

What are some of the ways people today respond to Jesus?

Discuss: "What grips me in this particular Lenten season is Jesus' courage! Can you imagine him walking directly into that kind of enemy "fire"?! Facing not just a death, but a horrifying one...saying good-bye to all he loves... I wonder, how could Jesus

be so courageous in the face of suffering of that magnitude? It must be that...He understood the ultimate goodness of God..."

This journey to the cross was Jesus' calling. We have a calling too. What does God want you to be doing *now*...in a world filled with viruses, suffering, and fear?

How can you use your gifts during this crisis to be like Jesus and sacrificially care for others?

What might God be asking you to be obedient to?