

The Jesus Way: Building a Life of Christlike Relationships (5)

The Humble King and His Kingdom Ethic

Matthew 21:1–11; Philippians 2:1–11

Introduction: We love a good parade for a hero. But on the first Palm Sunday: Jesus of Nazareth approaches Jerusalem, not in a golden chariot or on a warhorse, but on a borrowed donkey. Jesus enters Jerusalem in humility, showing that His kingdom is built not on power, pride, or status—but on self-giving love.

Showing us humility as the Jesus way — The kingdom of Jesus grows through humble hearts, not demanding spirits.

We follow Christ's example by choosing humility over entitlement. Offer encouragement or service to someone who cannot repay you.

I. The King's presentation – A humble arrival (Matthew 21:1–11)

A. Jesus approaches Jerusalem and sends for a donkey (v.2–3)

1. Fulfills Zechariah 9:9 – “Behold, your King is coming to you... lowly and sitting on a donkey” (v.4–5)
2. Contrast with worldly coronation: peace not power

B. Crowd cries “Hosanna!” (v.9, Psalm 118)

C. Many misunderstood His mission (v.10–11)

Jesus stages His entrance to highlight His humility and peace-filled purpose.

II. The King's pattern – A humble attitude (Philippians 2:1–8)

A. Call to imitate Christ's mindset (v.5)

Jesus, though fully God, emptied Himself (v.6–7)

B. Took on the form of a servant, humbled Himself to death on a cross (v.8)

True greatness is revealed through humble service, not self-assertion.

III. The King's promotion – Exaltation through humility (Philippians 2:9–11)

A. Because of His humility, God exalted Jesus (v.9)

B. Every knee will bow and tongue confess that Jesus is Lord (v.10–11)

God honors humility with true glory. Christ's path to the crown went through the cross.

IV. The King's people – A call to humble action

A. Philippians 2:1–3 – Believers are to value others above self

B. John 13:15 – Follow Christ's example of humble service

C. Luke 14:13–14 – Serve those who cannot repay you

Humility is the foundation of Christlike relationships. Serve others joyfully, expecting nothing in return.

Conclusion: Humility truly completes the portrait of Christlike love and relationships.

1. Where is pride hindering your relationships?
2. How can you practically serve someone this week with no expectation of return?
3. What does it look like to carry Christ's presence in humility?

“Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 2:5, NKJV)