Theme: Everything that happened to Jesus happened exactly as God planned it.

## Matthew 21:1-11

When they had approached Jerusalem and had come to Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, **2** saying to them, "Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied *there* and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to Me. **3** If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord has need of them,' and immediately he will send them." **4** This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet:

**5** "Say to the daughter of Zion, 'Behold your King is coming to you, Gentle, and mounted on a donkey, Even on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden."

6 The disciples went and did just as Jesus had instructed them, 7 and brought the donkey and the colt, and laid their coats on them; and He sat on the coats. 8 Most of the crowd spread their coats in the road, and others were cutting branches from the trees and spreading them in the road. 9 The crowds going ahead of Him, and those who followed, were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David; Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest!"

**10** When He had entered Jerusalem, all the city was stirred, saying, "Who is this?" **11** And the crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth in Galilee."

## **OUTLINE:**

Text: Matthew 21:1-11

- I. Jerusalem (Matthew 21:1-11)
- II. Gethsemane (Matthew 26:36-56)
- III. Golgotha (Matthew 27:32-66)

## **Personal Application**

1. Read Matthew 21:1-11 every day this week. Then, spend time in prayer thanking God for His marvelous plan to save you from your sin and bring you to heaven with Him — forever!

## **Small Group Discussion**

- 1. Discuss why Jesus had to die for our sins.
- 2. Read Matthew 21:1-11 and also Matthew 27:15-23. Discuss the people's positive reaction to Jesus during the Triumphal Entry, in contrast to their sinful choosing of Barabbas instead of Jesus.
- 3. Read Matthew 26:36-56. Discuss what Jesus prayed about in the Garden of Gethsemane. Also, why you think Judas Iscariot betrayed Jesus. Finally, discuss the significance of verse 56 when it says, "Then all the disciples left him and fled."
- 4. Read Matthew 27:32-66. Discuss how and why the Bible provides so little information about the details surrounding the crucifixion (i.e. "And when they had crucified him"). Then, discuss verse 50 when Jesus died and yielded up His spirit. Then, discuss why (and the significance of) you think the chief priests and the Pharisees were so concerned about the tomb being sealed and guarded.