

## ST. BARNABAS CHURCH, SWANLAND

### SMALL GROUPS NOTES

*Sharing Christ through friendship*

Week beginning 17 April 2011. Palm Sunday Zechariah 9:9-12, Mt 27:22, 27-54

– Also read Matthew 21:1-11 Jesus the King

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| <b>Welcome/<br/>icebreaker</b> | Can you think of an occasion when events or a person turned out in an unexpected way? What did you learn from the experience?  |
| <b>Worship</b>                 | Choose some songs/hymns that speak of the Kingship/Lordship of Jesus: suggestions;<br>King of Kings Majesty, All hail King Jesus. Ride on, ride on in majesty.<br><b>Pray</b> that the Holy Spirit will reveal God's truth to you and for you today, as you read his word and meet him through it.                             |
| <b>Word</b> (refs. ↓)          | Sermon available to listen to on <a href="http://www.stbchurch.org.uk">www.stbchurch.org.uk</a> if you missed it. Click on "downloads".  |
| Mt 21                          | You may like to close your eyes. Imagine the scene, as one person reads the passage. Describe the sights, sounds and smells of the scene - and the hopes and expectations of the crowd. What were their cries of "Hosanna" ("Save now"/Praise God) based on?   |
| Mt 27:27-54<br>and v22         | Why did the "Hosannas" turn to "Crucify"? How do we react when Jesus/God doesn't act in the way we expect? What would be the best basis for our expectations? (who Jesus is, rather than on what we expect him to do)<br>How did Jesus react to his betrayal, trial and crucifixion? What does this tell us about his kingdom? |
| Mt 27:27-31                    | Again close your eyes while someone reads these verses, picturing the scene, the torture, the suffering. In what ways is Jesus still suffering today? How can we help?   |
| V32-42<br>V50<br>V51-54        | What is the one thing they get right here?(v37) Does v40 remind you of another time when Jesus overcame adversity? (Mt4: 3,6)<br>Who is in control here?<br>What is the effect of Jesus death? To the centurion? To you?<br>What difference does it make to you today at home, school or work?                                 |
| <b>Pray</b>                    | "Surely he was ( <i>and is</i> ) the Son of God."(italics mine) Come to Jesus, fully human, fully God - <b>King of Kings</b> - in prayer and thankfulness for his death for you.<br>Pray as the Holy Spirit leads.   |
| <b>Witness</b>                 | How will you be an <i>Easter person</i> to those you meet this week? Will you join the Good Friday walk of witness, or invite someone to come to a service on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday or Easter Day? How will you show that you belong to King Jesus?  |