

# Hope For More

## Hope For The Happy (Week 3)

### LifeNotes

## TALK IT OVER

### Main Idea

We often place our hope in temporary happiness, but Jesus offers joy in every circumstance.

### Key Scriptures

*"Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know." Acts 2:22 ESV*

*"This Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men." Acts 2:23 ESV*

*"God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it." Acts 2:24 ESV*

*"This Jesus God raised up, and of that we are all witnesses. Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing." Acts 2:32-33 ESV*

*"Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified." Acts 2:36 ESV*

*And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." Acts 2:38 ESV*

### **When you see the man, not the mascot....**

1. You become a follower instead of a fan.
2. You value the mission over the moment.

### Start talking.

- What's your dream meal?
- What makes you happiest?
- What are some of the differences between a fan and a follower?

### Start thinking.

- Why are we so quick to pin our hopes on the temporary things that bring us happiness?
- Why did people turn Jesus into a mascot? A social justice warrior? A wise teacher? A political revolutionary? How does our world misunderstand Jesus today?
- Compare Acts 2:22-24, 32-36 to one of the accounts of Palm Sunday shown below. How was the crucifixion hinted at in the Triumphal Entry? Why did everyone miss the signs?

### Start sharing.

- Have you ever turned Jesus into a mascot? Have you ever misunderstood who He was?
- Do the Crucifixion and Resurrection still humble and inspire awe in you? Why are we so quick to forget what Jesus went through for us?

### Start doing.

- What is one thing you can do this week to see the Man rather than the mascot?
- How is God calling you to value His Mission over the moment?
- Take some time this week to:
  - Read the 4 accounts of Palm Sunday.
    - Matthew 21:1-11
    - Mark 11:1-10
    - Luke 19:28-40
    - John 12:12-19
  - Meet the Man, not the mascot.
    - Read Acts 2

### Closing prayer.

Father, thank you for the grace that you show us. Thank you for Easter, for the hope that we have in the resurrection. I thank you that, while we were sinners, Christ died for us. Help us to see the Man this week, as we prepare our hearts for Easter. Help us to follow you, even in hard times, and lead us towards the joy that you offer in all circumstances.