

# COLLOQUIES with Pastor Brian

## Jesus' Plan For 'Saving' Others

"Praise to you, O Lord! Hosannah!"

**F**or those with us at worship Sunday, you know this phrase not only offers praise but also asks to be "saved". I rarely put this understanding together; maybe I thought to praise God and then demand salvation seemed rude? Or it could be that when I think of all the things we need saving from (disease, poverty, debt, violence, unsafe food and environments, bigotry, judgment... just to name a few), we rarely think of Jesus as the one who leads the way in these areas.

I believe one of the greatest forms of evil (or 'satanic') influence in modern spirituality is to reduce Jesus to only spiritual salvation, not allowing him heart, head, soul and body salvation for all of God's people.

This week, we see Jesus again leading the charge to free EVERYONE by taking another risk. This time, he's chipping at what many see as the very cornerstone of the Jewish faith when he takes on Temple Worship and behavior around the national and spiritual identity of the Jewish people. Join us at worship and in bible study to learn more about Jesus' full plan for 'saving' others and to bravely explore what this work might mean for us.

On another note, in worship last Sunday, I challenged the congregation to do some homework. I realize many of you need this written down, so what follows is "the assignment." Please take this in the grace and encouraging manner that it was intended, and I hope it might be a blessing to you during this Holy Lent!

Peace of Christ to each of you,

Pastor Brian

### **This Week's Assignment:**

This week, as Jesus begins the journey to answer the cries of the crowds to save them (us) at the cost of his life, let's consider how we can step into the saving work of Jesus. You are invited four separate times this week to read through a different Gospel account of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem (*Matthew 21:1-11, Mark 11:1-11, Luke 19:28-44, and John 12:12-19*).

Read each passage three times.

The first time allow your ear to catch a word or phrase from the passage and write it down.

Then read the passage again slowly and ask where the scripture touches your life right now.

Finally, read the scripture again and ask what is God calling you to do. Take four different days and write your responses down. Then, after all four of the days, look back and notice where there might be similarities or differences in how you heard each Gospel account.