

The Sermon on the Mount: Actions Matter Matthew 7:7-12 & Palm Sunday Passages

What Jesus **asks us to do** matters more than **we think**.

📖 Matthew 7:7–8 (NIV) “Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. ⁸ For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened.”

📖 Luke 19:29–38 (NIV) “As He approached Bethphage and Bethany at the hill called the Mount of Olives, He sent two of His disciples, saying to them, ³⁰ “Go to the village ahead of you, and as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. ³¹ If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you untying it?’ tell him, ‘The Lord needs it.’” ³² Those who were sent ahead went and found it just as He had told them. ³³ As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, “Why are you untying the colt?” ³⁴ They replied, “The Lord needs it.” ³⁵ They brought it to Jesus, threw their cloaks on the colt and put Jesus on it. ³⁶ As He went along, people spread their cloaks on the road. ³⁷ When He came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen: ³⁸ “Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!” “Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!”

📖 Matthew 21:4–5 (NIV) “This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet: ⁵ “Say to the Daughter of Zion, ‘See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.’”

What Jesus **sees us do** affects Him more than **we think**.

📖 Matthew 7:9–11 (NIV) “Which of you, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? ¹⁰ Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? ¹¹ If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him!”

📖 Luke 19:39-42 (NIV) “Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, “Teacher, rebuke your disciples!” ⁴⁰ “I tell you,” He replied, “if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out.” ⁴¹ As He approached Jerusalem and saw the city, He wept over it ⁴² and said, “If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace—but now it is hidden from your eyes.”

What Jesus **feels us do** matters more than **what others think**.

📖 Matthew 7:12 (NIV) “So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.”

📖 John 13:34 (NIV) “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another.”

📖 Matthew 26:6–13 (NIV) “While Jesus was in Bethany in the home of a man known as Simon the Leper, ⁷ a woman came to Him with an alabaster jar of very expensive perfume, which she poured on His head as He was reclining at the table. ⁸ When the disciples saw this, they were indignant. “Why this waste?” they asked. ⁹ “This perfume could have been sold at a high price and the money given to the poor.” ¹⁰ Aware of this, Jesus said to them, “Why are you bothering this woman? She has done a beautiful thing to me. ¹¹ The poor you will always have with you, but you will not always have me. ¹² When she poured this perfume on my body, she did it to prepare me for burial. ¹³ I tell you the truth, wherever this gospel is preached throughout the world, what she has done will also be told, in memory of her.”

Digging Deeper—What have you been asked to do that ended up mattering more than you initially thought it would? How does James 4:1-3 support Matthew 7:7-8? What convinced you that Jesus was real? Have you ever considered that your actions could make God sad? How does Ephesians 4:30 tie into Matthew 7:41-42? What new thing did you learn from this sermon? Who are you going to invite to come to church with you on Easter?