



## CORNERSTONE REFLECTION GUIDE

### APRIL 13, 2025

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**Title:** What is Good? The Inside Job

**Preacher:** Rev. Matt Tuggle

**Scripture:** Matthew 21:12-14

Jesus stood on a hill overlooking Jerusalem—the Kidron Valley spread from right to left before him, the temple mount rising up on the other side of the valley, and the walls of Jerusalem encircling the capital city. From that hill, Jesus would descend into the valley, up again into the city, and into the temple itself.

Everyone who knew him, and many who had only heard of him, were asking themselves, “What will he do?” They believed he would become the next King of Israel, reigning from Jerusalem.

**But, “How will he secure the throne?”**

**And, “What kind of king will he be?”**

Well, we know from last week that he will be a [gentle king](#). And how will he secure the throne? In this sermon, we explore how what Jesus did in Jerusalem the last week of his life tells that story. Spoiler alert, it has to do with gentleness too!

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

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1. What stuck out to you about this sermon? Was there an idea that was particularly meaningful or challenging for you?
2. In what ways has Jesus opened your eyes to a new way of viewing the world?
3. Where have you witnessed Jesus offer healing and restoration in your circles?

4. What perception of God did you grow up with when it comes to your faith: a god who smites, a god who ignores, a god who inspires, or something else? How do you think this vision of God has shaped you? Where might it need to be reimagined in light of a gentle God?
5. On a practical level, what does it mean for us to live with Jesus as king over our lives?

## WEEKLY PRACTICE

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One of the best ways to cultivate a spirit of humility and gentleness is by serving others. Jesus tells us that the greatest commandment is not just to love God, but to love others. The two are equally important and intricately connected. At its core, serving others is about meeting the practical needs of those around us, especially those who are in desperate need of help and hope. This April, keep an eye out for ways you can practically serve others with your time, talents, and resources.

We want to challenge you to **commit to serving with HPUMC for at least four months**. Whether that's through serving with HPUMC Kids or as a greeter on Sunday mornings, we have a serving opportunity for you! Visit [hpumc.org/serve](http://hpumc.org/serve) to learn more, or reach out to [williamst@hpumc.org](mailto:williamst@hpumc.org) to get plugged in.