**Grace Group Notes: Matthew 20v17-21v27**

***Use these notes as much as you need to spark productive discussion.***

***Remember:*** *Whatever else we take away, we always want to emphasise grace and hope.*

1. **Recap (~5 mins)**

In **Matthew 19-20** Jesus exposes our hearts as seeking to earn eternal life (19v16).

***Q:*** *Have you spotted yourself viewing some ‘good deed’ this week as a ‘brownie point’ with God?*

1. **Review (~20 mins)**

**Summary: Jesus Enters Jerusalem:** Jesus shows the Heart of Faith is not Religious Power but a Suffering Servant King – but we can be slow to learn this.

***NOTE: Aim to make at least one question “chat in 2s/3s” (perhaps by gender) to vary the format.***

***Q:******Ch 20 verses 17-28:*** *What might be right and what might be wrong about how people act around Jesus in these verses? Why?*

***Q: Ch 20 verses 29-34:*** *What reasons might Matthew have for including this episode? (See* ***13v13-14****)*

***Q: Ch 21 verses 1-11:*** *What might be right and what might be wrong about how people act around Jesus in these verses? Why? (See* ***2 Kings 9v13****)*

***Q:******Ch 21 verses 12-27:*** *What is Jesus’ verdict on the temple, as shown by his various words and actions?*

* *Perhaps split into 2s/3s in breakout rooms to look at a section each:* ***v12-17****;* ***v18-22****;* ***v23-27****.*

1. **Application (~15 mins)**

***Q:*** *With what truths do we find ourselves being like the disciples, still not really grasping and applying it, even serving and promoting ourselves, time after time?*

* *Can you think of areas where you are susceptible to seek status or promote your own interests rather than embrace suffering and service?*

***Q:*** *How do we find ourselves in a muddle like Mrs Zebedee in our attitudes and actions?*

* *Can you think of anything that can be or look virtuous, but actually be selfish or make you proud?*

**Prayer (~20 mins)**

*Share prayer requests, particularly in view of the passage [****where Jesus shows us that his way is about serving and suffering, not status****] – and pray.*