

**Title:** THE UNEXPECTED KING  
**Text:** ISAIAH 42:1-9, MARK 11:1-10

**Teacher:** NATHAN MILLER

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### **Expectation vs. Reality**

#### **The Unexpected Servant**

- Expectation:

- Reality:

#### **The Unexpected King**

- Expectation:

- Reality:

#### **What do we expect from the Servant-King?**

*The Servant who comes is not the King we expect though He is the One we hope for.*

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## CONVERSATION STARTER

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- Describe a time when your expectations did not line up with reality. What forms our expectations? How do you respond when your expectations are not met?
- Read Isaiah 42:1-9. What is included in the servant's job description in these verses? What might people have been expecting from the description of the servant? What do we learn about God in this passage?
- Read Mark 11:1-11. Why might Jesus have chosen to ride on a colt? Why do you think the crowd is crying, "Hosanna!" as Jesus passes by? What does the crowd's mention of David's coming kingdom tell us about their expectations of Jesus?
- Read the excerpt below. Do you agree with Nouwen that power offers an easy substitute for the hard task of love? Why or why not? In what ways does Jesus' life demonstrate a choice of love over power? In what ways are you tempted to choose power over love?
- Have you ever been surprised by the Jesus you've encountered in Scripture? In what ways? How does Jesus' example of being a humble servant king help shape your understanding of power? How might you help someone whose expectations of God have been frustrated?

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**EXCERPT FROM:** *In the Name of Jesus*

**BY:** Henri Nouwen

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What makes the temptation of power so seemingly irresistible? Maybe it is that power offers an easy substitute for the hard task of love. It seems easier to be God than to love God, easier to control people than to love people, easier to own life than to love life. Jesus asks, "Do you love me?" We ask, "Can we sit at your right hand and your left hand in your Kingdom?" (Matthew 20:21). Ever since the snake said, "The day you eat of this tree your eyes will be open and you will be like gods, knowing good from evil" (Genesis 3:5), we have been tempted to replace love with power. Jesus lived that temptation in the most agonizing way from the desert to the cross.