



Part 2: The Line of Decision
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On His journey to the cross, Jesus chose to cross:

The line of Desperation

As Jesus and his disciples were leaving Jericho, a large crowd followed him. Two blind men were sitting by the roadside, and when they heard that Jesus was going by, they shouted, "Lord, Son of David, have mercy on us!"

The crowd rebuked them and told them to be quiet, but they shouted all the louder, "Lord, Son of David, have mercy on us!"

Jesus stopped and called them. "What do you want me to do for you?" he asked. "Lord," they answered, "we want our sight."

Jesus had compassion on them and touched their eyes. Immediately they received their sight and followed him. – *Matthew 20:29-34*

The line of Peace

As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, tell him that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away."

This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet:

"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.'" – *Matthew 21:1-5*

The line of Acclaim

The next day the great crowd that had come for the Feast heard that Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem. They took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting, "Hosanna!"

"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"

"Blessed is the King of Israel!" Jesus found a young donkey and sat upon it, as it is written,

"Do not be afraid, O Daughter of Zion;

see, your king is coming,

seated on a donkey's colt." – *John 12:12-15*

The line of Hypocrisy

"What shall I do, then, with Jesus who is called Christ?" Pilate asked.

They all answered, "Crucify him!" – *Matthew 27:22*

The line of Religion

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples!" "I tell you," he replied, "if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out." – *Luke 19:39-40*

(Continues on back)

The line of **Heartbreak**

As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it 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." – *Luke 19:41-42*

The line of **Surrender**

"My Father, if it is not possible for this cup to be taken away unless I drink it, may your will be done..." – *Matthew 26:42*

"Look, the hour is near, and the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise, let us go!" – *Matthew 26:45-46*

As we enter into this Holy Week, have you fully crossed the line of surrender?

Then he said to them all: "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will save it. What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, and yet lose or forfeit his very self?

– *Luke 9:23-25*

Next Steps

- Surrender your schedule right now and make plans to join us for The Shadow of the Cross and our Good Friday service.
- Read the account of the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus from Matthew 26-28 this week.

On Your Way Home

Take a few minutes to just sit quietly in God's presence. Then pray a prayer of gratitude for what Jesus did on the cross.

Small Group Discussion Questions



- 1) Do you have any Easter traditions? Share!
- 2) Have you ever been in a parade? How did it feel to be the center of attention?
- 3) Which of the lines that Jesus crossed (listed above) have you crossed in the past six months?
- 4) Is there a line of faith that Jesus has been asking you to cross? Can you share the line? What is holding you back?
- 5) What does the cross mean to you?
- 6) How can we pray for you tonight?