

# Celebrate

Matt Turrigiano

## I. Introduction

- A. Deuteronomy 16:14-15 (NLT)
- B. John 10:10 (NIV)
- C. Matthew 21:1-11 (NASB) <sup>1</sup>When they had approached Jerusalem and had come to Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, <sup>2</sup>saying to them, "Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied there and a colt with her; untie them and bring them to Me. <sup>3</sup>If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord has need of them,' and immediately he will send them." <sup>4</sup>This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet: <sup>5</sup>"Say to the daughter of Zion, 'Behold your King is coming to you, Gentle, and mounted on a donkey, even on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.'" <sup>6</sup>The disciples went and did just as Jesus had instructed them, <sup>7</sup>and brought the donkey and the colt, and laid their coats on them; and He sat on the coats. <sup>8</sup>Most of the crowd spread their coats in the road, and others were cutting branches from the trees and spreading them in the road. <sup>9</sup>The crowds going ahead of Him, and those who followed, were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David; Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest!" <sup>10</sup>When He had entered Jerusalem, all the city was stirred, saying, "Who is this?" <sup>11</sup>And the crowds were saying, "This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth in Galilee."

## II. Why Should We Celebrate?

- A. We should celebrate because we get to partner with God in His work!
- B. When God wants to do something in the world, He almost always invites a human being into partnership with Himself in order to fulfill His purpose in our lives or in the world.
- C. I Corinthians 3:9 (NIV)
1. The kind of life that God has for you is a life of purpose.
  2. Finding God's purpose for your life and partnering with Him is worth celebrating!
- D. Matthew 21:6-9 (NASB)
- E. Ephesians 3:20-21 (NLT)
- F. We choose to believe, even in disappointment, that God is good and that His purpose for our lives is good.

## III. What Single Word Sums Up the Christian Faith?

- A. The word grace appears 121 times in the New Testament.
1. John 3:16 (NIV)
- B. The word love appears 317 times in the New Testament.
- C. One of the main characteristics of the Christian faith, as described in the New Testament, is joy.
1. Luke 2:9-11 (NLT)
  2. Luke 24:51-52 (NLT)
  3. Romans 14:17 (NLT)

D. Joy is a mark of the indwelling of God's Spirit in our hearts.

1. Galatians 5:22 (NIV)

E. The Bible talks about two types of joy: "Joy because of" and "Joy in spite of."

1. Psalm 16:11 (NLT)

2. I Chronicles 16:27 (NIV)

3. II Corinthians 6:10a (NIV)

4. Hebrews 12:2b (NIV)

F. The last word of God is not crucifixion but resurrection!

#### **IV. Conclusion**