

THE BIG IDEA: Raised people praise.

The Take-Off

Exodus 4:2: “What’s in your hand?”

Week 1 we learned that **forgiven people forgive** and that **in a divided world we need to drop the stones.**

Week 2 we learned that **blessed people bless** and that **in a hurting world we need to use the stones.**

This morning I want to show you that **in a confused world we need to silence the stones.**

We silence the stones with our worship

Turn with me to **Luke 19:40 (NIV)** and let’s read an interesting statement by Jesus that is going to help us unpack this week’s Big Idea: **raised people praise**

1. Jesus will be worshipped

- a. At first glance, it’s easy to wonder what Jesus is talking about.
- b. Does He really mean that if we refuse to sing He’s going to form a rock band?
- c. Well, kind of. What He’s actually saying is that the worship of Him is non-negotiable.
- d. **Jesus will be worshipped.**
- e. Look at the context:
 - Zacchaeus makes Jesus his Lord (v. 8) and Jesus rules his life instead of money
 - Jesus tells a story about people who did - and did not - honor a king (vv. 11-27)
 - Jesus commandeers a donkey. Why? Because “the Lord needs it.” (v. 31) The owner gives it.
 - People start praising Jesus as “the king who comes in the name of the Lord” (v. 38)
 - The Pharisees tell Jesus to tell them to be quiet (v. 39)
- f. It was in this context that Jesus said the stones would cry out.
- g. Translation? Jesus will be worshipped.
- h. Some of us think that worship is optional, like some super cool add-on to the standard equipment that comes with Christianity.
- i. But it’s non-negotiable. Worship IS Christianity because worship is seeing the worth-ship of Jesus. He is Lord and that means He will be worshipped. Forever.
- j. Jesus will be worshipped.

2. Jesus will be worshipped by us

- a. But **Phil. 2:10-11 (NIV)** makes something else clear. **Jesus will be worshipped by us.**
- b. All of us. From the most committed to the most apathetic.
- c. From the strongest believer to the staunchest atheist.
- d. EVERY knee WILL bow and EVERY tongue WILL confess.
- e. Worship isn’t negotiable, but it is postponable.
- f. And that leads us to 2 closing questions that will hit all of us hard...

3. 2 questions that will hit all of us hard

- a. Question #1: **When will you start worshipping Jesus?**
 - Not when will you start worshipping - you’re already doing that - everyone worships something
 - When will you bring your life into agreement with the reality that Jesus is Lord?
 - Here and now or There and too late?
- b. Question #2: **How loud is your worship of Jesus?**
 - Is it loud enough to silence the stones?
 - Is it clear enough that your life communicates that Jesus is YOUR Lord?

The Landing

Let’s close with **Romans 6:4 (NIV)** and highlight the fact that **RAISED PEOPLE PRAISE**

We’ve been raised to life in Christ - not just to life, but to NEW life - life lived under the Lordship of Christ Jesus is Lord, and that has to change everything.

Let’s pray.