

# FOLLOW-THROUGH

## “Fools’ Parade”

Palm Sunday, April 1, 2007

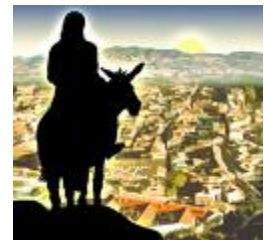
### Introduction

1. Share an April Fools story or a story in which you are the one looking or feeling foolish.
2. What do the following Proverbs tell you about the foolish person?
  - Proverbs 1:7
  - Proverbs 10:8
  - Proverbs 12:16
  - Proverbs 13:16
  - Proverbs 14:16
  - Proverbs 18:2
  - Proverbs 20:3
  - Proverbs 26:11
  - Proverbs 28:26
  - Proverbs 29:11
3. Where do you see one of the descriptors of fools and foolishness at work in our culture today? In other words, how are we foolish today, even on a day other than April Fools Day?



### Putting the Passage to Work

1. Read John 12:12-19 aloud. Then make a case for each of the following being foolish or misunderstanding Jesus on the first Palm Sunday:
  - Jesus’ disciples
  - The crowd
  - The Pharisees
2. Share some fairly common misunderstandings of Jesus at work today. In other words, how is Jesus still misunderstood?
3. Share a time when you were really misunderstood, when your motivation or action was misinterpreted. How did it feel? What does that tell you about Jesus on Palm Sunday? (Read Luke 19:41-42).



### Digging Deeper

1. Read Philippians 2:5-11. In what ways does Jesus look foolish here according to the world’s standards? In other words, how does his attitude run against the values of today’s society?
2. In 1 Corinthians 1:22-25, Paul calls the gospel of Jesus Christ a scandal (Greek for “stumbling block” = *skandalon*) and foolishness. In what ways is this true? Why is the Gospel a stumbling block and foolishness to some people?
3. In one sense, like Jesus, we are to look the fools. That is, we are to give ourselves to sacrifice, obedience, and humility – all for the sake of others.
  - As you think of fools for Christ, who are your spiritual heroes, who have not been afraid to look foolish for Jesus?
  - In your life right now, what opportunities do you have to be a “fool for Christ?”
4. Close with a prayer for one another as you see to be fools for Christ.