



MISSION IS THE KINGDOM STONE

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Approaching Jerusalem just days before His crucifixion, Jesus made an unusual request of His disciples. They were to go into the village and bring back a donkey colt that had never been ridden. As Jesus approached the city riding on the colt, the crowd began to praise God in a loud voice. People spread coats and branches on the road. People formed a procession in front of and behind Jesus shouting, “Hosanna!” and, “Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord” (Luke 19:38, NIV).

Jesus riding on a humble donkey would have brought to mind the prophecy of the coming King from Zechariah 9:9-10. The reference to the King indicates that people were declaring Jesus to be the Messiah who came to bring redemption. Persons who encounter the one true King seek ways to declare His message to the nations.

Missional stewardship is marked by sacrificial and cooperative support of God’s mission to reach the nations through congregational ministry and collaborative global strategies as illustrated by the Cooperative Program. Cooperative giving is kingdom focused because it requires us to give to people we may never see in a manner where only Jesus can receive the glory.