

"Crowd Control"

3/22/15

John 12, 18, 19 & Mark 15

The feeling of being squeezed by the "crowds" around us.

2 OPENING OBSERVATIONS

1. People do things in a **CROWD** they would not do **ALONE**.
2. Crowds and/or leadership can control the **VULNERABLE**.

NOTICE THREE THINGS ABOUT OUR FICKLE FEELINGS:

- I. Establishment + **DISTRACTION** = **INSECURITY** (fight)
 - The Pharisees 18:39-40
 - This crowd was crashing their party!
 - They get riled up!
 - Begin to look to stop.
- II. Excitement + disappointment = **VULNERABLE** (fear)
 - Crowd who had cheered.
 - Jesus was spoiling their party!
 - They give up!
 - Enthusiasm wanes.
- III. **MOMENTUM** + Time + New Noise = **VOLATILITY** (flight/flight)
 - Vulnerable followers meet insecure leaders.
 - He's not worth it?
 - They turn away.
 - Some turn against.

OBVIOUS CONCERNS FOR US TODAY

- Look **HARD** (at Easter story) and decide even **HARDER!**
 - Choose Christ over crowds and Congress (leaders).
- Start **INFLUENCING** the other way!
 - Do some inciting for Jesus!