

Release Part II

Echo Church | Week 14 | April 6, 2025 | Rich Saunders Jr. |
Matthew 21:1-3 (NKJV)

Scripture Reference: Matthew 21:1-3 (NKJV):

1 Now when they drew near Jerusalem, and came to Bethphage, at the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples,

2 saying to them, "Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Loose them and bring them to Me.

3 And if anyone says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord has need of them,' and immediately he will send them."

Introduction

Family, this is more than a passage about a donkey. This is a peek into how God operates. Jesus is about to make His triumphant entry into Jerusalem, yet He doesn't roll up in a royal chariot. He doesn't demand the finest horse. No, He calls for a donkey. And not a free-roaming, majestic donkey minding its business—but a tied-up, seemingly insignificant one. And the word? "The Lord has need of it."

What if today, the Spirit is speaking over your life, saying, "The Lord has need of YOU"? What's tied up in your life that God is saying, release it? Is it your potential? Your faith? Your trust? Whatever it is, there's a reason God is after it. Because here's the truth, family: when you release what you're holding onto, you make room for God's purpose to be fulfilled in your life.

Point 1: Recognize What's Tied Up

"Immediately you will find a donkey tied..."

Listen, sometimes the thing God is calling for is tied-up potential. Some of y'all know what I'm talking about. There's a gift, a calling, or a dream that God placed in you a long time ago, but it's been tied up. Maybe it's tied up by procrastination. Maybe it's tied up by self-doubt. Maybe it's tied up because you're worried about what people will think. Whatever it is—that purpose God put in you is still there, even if it's tied up.

Here's the twist, though. The donkey was tied up, but it was also positioned. It was intentionally placed where it needed to be for its moment of release. Family, you might feel stuck now, but don't you know that God knows exactly where you are? You might feel like you're tied up, but God can still use you when the time is right.

Action Step: Take some time this week to pray, “Lord, show me what in my life is tied up.” And when He shows you, don’t stay stuck in frustration. Ask Him for the courage to loosen what needs to be released.

Point 2: Trust the Transfer

"Loose them and bring them to Me..."

Family, we need to talk about trust today. Notice that when Jesus tells the disciples to untie the donkey, He doesn’t give them a backup plan. He doesn’t say, “If the owner gets mad, here’s a bribe.” He says, “If anyone asks you why, just tell them, ‘The Lord has need of them.’” Period.

That means there was going to be a moment where the owner of the donkey had to make a decision. Would they cling to what was theirs? Or would they trust the transfer? There’s somebody listening right now, and God has been knocking on the door of your heart saying, “Release it to Me.” Maybe it’s a relationship. Maybe it’s an opportunity. Maybe it’s your future plans. And you’ve been wrestling because some things feel too valuable to release.

But can I remind you today, family, that when you transfer control to God, you unlock purpose? That donkey didn’t get downgraded when it left its owner; it got upgraded because it was being used for a King. Whatever God is asking you to release, trust that He knows what to do with it better than you do.

Action Step: Ask yourself, “What am I scared to give to God?” This week, take a single step toward surrender. Hand it over to Him and trust the transfer.

Point 3: Believe You Are Needed

"The Lord has need of them..."

Now here’s the part I need y’all to hear loud and clear. That donkey was chosen for two reasons. Not because of how it looked. Not because of how fast it could move. But because the Lord needed it. And if God can use a donkey, what makes you think He can’t use you?

Somebody listening right now has been telling yourself a lie that God doesn’t need you because of your past. Or because you’re too broken. Or because you’re too ordinary. But family, the fact that He sent for you means you are valuable to Him. Your value isn’t in what you’ve done or what you bring to the table. Your value is that the King has called for you.

Stop disqualifying yourself. The enemy wants nothing more than for you to live your life tied up in self-doubt. But the Word of God is clear. The Lord has need of you—not once you have it all together, but right now, just as you are.

Action Step: Every day this week, declare this to yourself in the mirror: “The Lord has need of me.” Say it until you believe it. Say it until self-doubt doesn’t recognize you anymore.

Closing

Family, the question is simple today. What’s tied up in your life that you need to release? Is it your gifts? Your heart? Your control? Whatever it is, hear this truth today. The Lord has need of it because He has need of YOU. When you release it, you’ll find that what you’ve been holding back isn’t just meant for you. It’s meant for His Kingdom.

Trust Him when He calls for it. Loosen the rope. And release it. The Lord has already made a plan to use you for His glory. Will you say yes?