

## **Thought for the day – Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2022**

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### **Crowds**

It has been moving and insightful, watching segments from the Visual Bible: Matthew, during our Journeying with Jesus during Holy Week, this week. According to wikipedia, Bruce Marchiano portrays Jesus as a joyous, earthy, personal man with a sense of humour. I agree! Jesus in this depiction is very much a man of the people. He is constantly weaving in and out of the crowd, hugging, kissing, laughing and even throwing things playfully at them. But equally, he gives a powerful performance of an angry and frustrated Jesus, at injustice and exploitation, which we saw last night.

I was struck by how much Jesus was amongst crowds. At one point in Luke, it says he was amongst thousands! The crowd welcomed Jesus on Palm Sunday to Jerusalem. And they will have a part to play in the events of Good Friday. The crowds were made up of his closest disciples, then other disciples, still others who were interested but not committed, others who were just watching from afar, and of course others who were opposing him, and still others who were his mortal enemies.

I wonder, where would we place our selves among the crowd? And how might we draw closer to Jesus as we journey through Holy Week?

Come near to God and he will come near to you - James 4:8