

Palm Sunday

THE TREE AND THE VINE · JOHN 11, 12, 15 & PSALM 1 · MARCH 24, 2024 · PASTOR RUTH CARVER

They took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting, "Hosanna!" (John 12:13a)

Jesus Orchestrates a Miracle (John 11)

- Jesus sets it up
- Jesus calls Lazarus out of the tomb
- Two reactions by the people

Jesus Orchestrates a Worship Parade (John 12)

- Jesus acts out prophecies
- Jesus allows the crowd to worship Him
- Two reactions by the people

It's All About Jesus

- "The New is in the Old Concealed; the Old is in the New Revealed"
 - Zechariah 9:9, Psalm 22:16-18
 - Isaac, Joseph, Moses, Esther, Jonah
 - Psalm 1
- Jesus is the Savior for the whole world (John 3:16)
- Let us remember all these things as we walk with Jesus this Holy Week!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What was the biggest happy crowd you've ever been a part of?
2. When have you been part of a crowd in which the people were definitely "harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd"? (See Jesus' words in Matthew 9:36-38)
3. Jesus said in John 11:4 that Lazarus's sickness was for the glory of God. What do you think he meant?
4. John quotes Zechariah 9:9 in his telling of the Palm Sunday event. How does the next verse (Zechariah 9:10) clarify Jesus' mission even further?
5. Ponder Caiaphas's words in John 11:49-50. How does John see these words as prophetic even though Caiaphas had no idea he was being so? Think in terms of "substitutionary atonement".
6. Think about how incredible it is that Jesus doesn't call his followers servants, but friends (John 15:15) because lets them in on the timeless truths from the Father. How does Jesus reveal the truth about himself in the Palm Sunday event?
7. What will you do during this Holy Week to remain in Jesus and have his words remain in you? (See John 15:7)

DIG DEEPER

This week dig deeper in one or more of the following ways:

1. Memorize Psalm 1:1-3 and John 15:12-13.
2. Listen to this joyful rendition of "Lift Up Your Heads", traditionally associated with Palm Sunday, from Handel's Messiah by Gramophone Ghana: [youtube.com/watch?v=5BiEdSIJP_Q](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5BiEdSIJP_Q)
3. Read and compare all 4 gospel accounts of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem: Matthew 21:1-11, Mark 11:1-10, Luke 19:28-44, and John 12:12-19. Think about what each writer adds to or emphasizes in the story, but also about how all four accounts can be harmonized.