



PSALMS, PALMS, & PASSION

Palm Sunday 2021 / Pastor Matt Jones

Psalm 118 & Mark 11-12

Giving Thanks (Psalm 118:1-4)

Gaining Trust (Psalm 118:5-8)

Gripping Thorns (Psalm 118:9-14)

Gates of Temple (Psalm 118:15-26)

Grace Tabernacled (Mark 11:1-12:11)

God's Truth (Psalm 118:27-29)

COMMUNITY GROUP QUESTIONS

Reflective Questions for You and Your Small Group

1. This week we celebrate Palm Sunday. Going back to your own memories, when did you first learn about Palm Sunday and how have you grown in your understanding of this Christian holyday in recent years? If you were raised in a Christian home, did your family have any traditions around Palm Sunday that were special to you and/or formative in your understanding of the historic day?
2. As Palm Sunday relates to the New Testament, we read about it in all four of the gospels: Matthew 21:1-11, Mark 11:1-10, Luke 19:28-40, and John 12:12-19. The fact this historic moment is recorded in all of the gospels tells us it was very important to God's people, not to mention God's revelation of Himself in the New Testament. That said, take some time to read each of these four accounts and discuss how they harmonize and what they tell us about concerning Jesus the Messiah and God's faithfulness to His covenant people Israel, as well as, the building of the church for this age as we await the coming kingdom of our Lord.
3. In our study this Lord's Day, we spent a considerable amount of time studying Psalm 118, which is used by the gospel writers in their accounting of the spiritual and scriptural significance of Palm Sunday. Beyond the four Palm Sunday accounts referenced in the last question, take some time to look up all the following New Testament uses of Psalm 118 and discuss together how the biblical authors tie the themes of the texts together. See: Matt 21:9, cf. Ps 118:25-26; Matt 21:15, cf. Ps 118:25; Matt 21:42, cf. Ps 118:22-23; Matt 23:39, cf. Ps 118:26; Mark 11:9-10, cf. Ps 118:25-26; Mark 12:10-11, cf. Ps 118:22-23; Luke 19:38, cf. Ps 118:25-26; Luke 20:17, cf. Ps 118:22-23; John 12:13, cf. Ps 118:25-26).
4. A key theme in the Bible in the texts of Palm Sunday is rejection, specifically how Jesus faced rejection for His people. In your own life, how have you been hurt by rejection? What has the Lord taught you through rejection and how has He been faithful in carrying you through it?
5. With the passion week upon us and Easter approaching, who are you reaching out this week to share with the Christian hope of the resurrection?
6. How can your community be in prayer for you this week? (Please keep our Pastor Tony Shen in your prayers and his family as he recovers from surgery)