

Sermon Discussion Questions - March 24, 2024

Scripture Passages:

Mark 11:11 Jesus entered Jerusalem and went to the temple. He looked around at everything, but since it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the Twelve.

Zechariah 9:9 Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion! Shout, Daughter of Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you, righteous and having salvation, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

Mark 10:32–33 They were on their way up to Jerusalem, with Jesus leading the way, and the disciples were astonished, while those who followed were afraid. "We are going up to Jerusalem," he said, "and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and teachers of the law. They will condemn him to death and will hand him over to the Gentiles"

Mark 10:37

... "Let one of us sit at your right and the other at your left in your glory."

Mark 10:44–45 ...and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

Mark 11:15–17 On reaching Jerusalem, Jesus entered the temple area and began driving out those who were buying and selling there. He overturned the tables of the money changers and

the benches of those selling doves. . . And as he taught them, he said, "Is it not written: " 'My house will be called a house of prayer for all nations'? But you have made it 'a den of robbers."

1 Corinthians 13:12 Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully . . .

Mark 11:11 Jesus entered Jerusalem and went to the temple. He looked around at everything...

Discussion:

- 1. As we enter Holy Week, is there anything you do to remember the events that took place this week leading up to Easter? If so, what do you do?
- 2. Pastor Tom gave us this lens as we think about Palm Sunday: I have never fully grasped this story and its full implications for my life. Have you ever looked Palm Sunday with this lens? What does Palm Sunday and Holy Week mean to you?
- 3. Read Mark 11:15-17. Excerpt from Pastor Tom "Perhaps we are guilty... this kind of Jesus." Do you find yourself guilty of this? Why do you think that is?
- 5. Pastor Tom made this statement: We often have wrong expectations of Jesus because we are following someone other than Biblical Jesus.
 Do you find yourself having the wrong expectations of Jesus? Do you find that you are following someone other than Biblical Jesus?
- 6. Read 1 Corinthians 13:12. What does this promise of seeing Jesus one day mean to you?

Next Steps:

Have you ever cried out for God to save you? To grant you the kind of success that has nothing to do with your job, nothing to do with how bright your family is, and nothing to do with your bank balance, but the kind of success that answers the deepest longings and cries of the human heart: for meaning and forgiveness and freedom from guilt?

Jesus surveyed the scene on the eve of Holy Week and said, "I am willing," thereby making a way for all who believe. That's what this day is about.

As we enter Holy Week, in what ways can you ask God to grant you the kind of success Pastor Tom talked about? What steps might God be calling you to remember what Palm Sunday and Holy Week is all about?