

How Palm Sunday Should Impact Our Life

Luke 19:28-49

March 29, 2015
Celebration | 8:45 am
Elevation | 10:45 am
Pastor David Mitchell

Trust in the plans of Jesus Luke 19:28-35

- Because they may not make sense from our perspective. Isaiah 55:8-9; John 13:5-7
- Because they are controlled by God. Zechariah 9:9; Matthew 21:4-5

Offer authentic praise to Christ Luke 19:36-39

“As soon as He was approaching, near the descent of the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the miracles which they had seen” (v. 37)

Psalm 118:26

- Is it to fulfill my own desires?
- Is it to make my life more comfortable?
- Is it based on my “temporary felt needs” or my “eternal spiritual needs?”
- Is it to honor Christ’s life and purposes?

Identify with the pain of Christ Luke 19:40-44

“When He approached Jerusalem, He saw the city and wept over it...” (v. 41)

Historian Josephus 70 AD

Luke 13:34-35; II Peter 3:9

- Who will you pray for that needs Christ’s love and salvation?
- Who will you invite to church Easter Sunday?

Accept the true peace of Christ Luke 19:42

“...If you had known in this day, even you, the things which make for peace! But now they have been hidden from your eyes” (v.42)

Three levels of peace you can experience:

- Peace with people. Proverbs 16:7, Romans 12:17-18
- Peace in your heart. John 14:26, 16:33; Isaiah 26:3; Philippians 4:6-7
- Peace with God. Romans 5:1-9

Digging Deeper:

We call today Palm Sunday because it was the day Jesus entered Jerusalem and the Jewish people covered the road with their clothes and palm branches in honor of His potential kingly rule. The people recited Psalm 118:26 as Mark quoted to them, *“Hosanna! BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD; Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David; Hosanna in the highest!”* (Mark 11:9-10). Psalm 118 depicted a king leading pilgrims to the Temple after a great victory. It was used for the Jewish Feast of Tabernacles so this cheering crowd was well acquainted with it. These admirers of Jesus expected Him to usher in a new kingdom like that of King David where all Roman rule would be vanquished. They saw it as the “good old days” with no Roman oppression. Yes, Jesus came to rule, but as Savior and Lord in each person’s heart. It is a spiritual reign, not a physical kingdom on earth. Some timeless principles speak to us from this passage. Read through the LifeGroup Discussion below, and reflect personally or discuss with your LifeGroup.

LifeGroup Discussion:

The Plans of Christ

Jesus arranged for a donkey, either personally or supernaturally. Zechariah 9:9, written over 500 years earlier, predicted this event. The disciples were given instructions to retrieve this colt. Jesus gave the colt’s specific location and that it was tied up, and it had never been ridden, which is a sign of purity. (Deuteronomy 21:3) Jesus even tells the disciples what to say to the person caring for this colt. Try entering into the minds of these disciples after Jesus’ instructions. *Why are they getting a colt? Why this colt? Why all the details on what to say?* Jesus had a complete plan prepared for this entry into Jerusalem down to the details of this colt. Now, in a much larger application, consider all the words of Christ and His plans for your life.

What questions do you have for Christ about the plans He has for you? Do you wonder why He allows problems like cancer, loss of a job, injuries, broken marriages, chaos around the world? If He is sovereign and in control, why does it feel as though He is not in control at times? Read Isaiah 55:8-9 and Romans 8:28-29. What do these passages tell you about these questions?

Read John 13:5-7. During the week after Palm Sunday, Jesus washes His disciples’ feet. What does Jesus reveal in these verses about His words and deeds and when will we fully understand them? How does that help you?

Our Praise of Christ

These people praised Christ because He was going to meet their felt needs to deliver them from an oppressive Roman government. They gave thanks to Him because of what they could get out of it.

Do you offer worship and praise for Jesus for what you get out of it? Is that the purpose of corporate worship at church? Do you think that if the topic, speaker or music is not what you want, it is not worth your time to attend? We may be tempted to only come to Christ when we have a need rather than to simply honor and glorify His name.

Choose one of these psalms and discuss what they tell you about how and why you are to praise the Lord:

Psalm 146, 147, 148, 149, 150

Accepting Peace with Christ

According to Romans 5:1-9, how can you have peace with God?

According to Proverbs 16:7 and Romans 12:17-21, how can you have peace with people?

Read Philippians 4:6-7, Isaiah 26:3, and John 14:26; 16:33. How can you have peace in your heart regardless of circumstances?

Next Steps:

1. **Invite a friend or family member to join you on Easter Sunday so that they can learn of the love and power of Jesus to work in their lives now and into eternity.** Calvary’s Easter services are at next Sunday, April 5 at the following times:

- Sunrise Service: 6:00 am | Courtyard
- Elevation: 10:45 am | Worship Center
- Celebration: 8:45 am | Worship Center
- Renovación (Spanish): 10:30 am | Chapel

Learn more about Easter week at Calvary at calvarylife.org/easter

2. **Attend an upcoming ‘Discover’ class to learn more about Calvary or about following Jesus.** Discover Classes are interactive experiences designed to help you learn how to live out the Christian life. More at calvarylife.org/discover

- **Discover Calvary:** April 12 at 12:15 – 3:45 pm in Fireside
Discover Calvary’s beliefs, purpose, history, ministries and how to become a member.
- **Discover Jesus:** April 15 – June 10 at 7:00 – 8:30 pm in the Worship Center Lobby
Journey through the foundational elements of following Jesus in this discipleship course. If you’re a new follower of Jesus or want to become more grounded in the basics of being a Christian, this is perfect for you!



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