

Suggested Discussion Questions for 4/2/2023

Message: Lessons from the Palms

1. Share an expectation bust you experienced. How did the expectation form? What was the “bust”? How did it work out for you, particularly in personal growth?
2. Every Gospel includes an account of the Triumphal Entry. Read all 4 and note what is unique and what is shared (Mt 21; Mark 11; Luke 19; Jn 12). Interact on the following:

How do you see the unique material in each account fulfill the author’s purpose for writing his gospel?

What do you find to be the most surprising addition or omission?

Why do you think only John mentions the palm branches (Mt & Mk use different terms for branch and don’t specify palms)? Any thoughts on why this singular inclusion becomes so much the focus of “Palm Sunday”?
3. Note the events immediately preceding the Triumphal Entry account. What differences do you see? Why do you think each author set it up as he did?
4. How does Jesus’ entry portray Him as King? Why are the quotations of Zechariah 9 significant?
5. What expectations do you see people having of God that are mistaken?
6. How do you respond to Jesus weeping over Jerusalem? How do you cultivate genuine emotion to the blindness around us?
7. Is there a “visitation” from God that you are missing?
8. What is your greatest challenge or encouragement from this study?
9. What would you like to discuss further?