

Pastor Dave Patterson
Palm Sunday—"The Garment, the Branch, & the Shout of Praise"
3.28.2021

USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We have provided all the Scriptures references in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to discuss the weekend message.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together. Give priority to the needs and pace of your group members.

While the questions are important, remember your group's goal is to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships. Use the discussion questions as you see fit but emphasize the relationships.

[Matthew 21:1-11]

As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away." This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet: "Say to Daughter Zion, 'See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.'" The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Hosanna in the highest heaven!" When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, "Who is this?" The crowds answered, "This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee."

[Revelation 19:11-16]

Then I saw heaven opened, and a white horse was standing there. Its rider was named Faithful and True, for he judges fairly and wages a righteous war. His eyes were like flames of fire, and on his head were many crowns. A name was written on him that no one understood except himself. He wore a robe dipped in blood, and his title was the Word of God. The armies of heaven, dressed in the finest of pure white linen, followed him on white horses. From his mouth came a sharp sword to strike down the nations. He will rule them with an iron rod. He will release the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty, like juice flowing from a winepress. On his robe at his thigh was written this title: King of all kings and Lord of all lords.

The crowns are honor, authority, your position, your influence, and the weight of who you are.

***If His authority is not working in your life, rewind and ask this question:
“Have I laid down all that I am at the foot of Jesus?”***

[Romans 12:1 MSG]

So here’s what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering.

[John 12:13]

“They took palm branches and went down the road to meet him”. Then they broke off the branches of palm trees.... From nearby trees. If you were the guy who just got done landscaping with new palm trees...it was a rough day, but luckily...

It’s good to pick up a palm branch, reflect, and say “Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.”

[1 Chronicles 17:11-14]

For when you die and join your ancestors, I will raise up one of your descendants, one of your sons, and I will make his kingdom strong. He is the one who will build a house—a temple—for me. And I will secure his throne

forever. I will be his father, and he will be my son. I will never take my favor from him as I took it from the one who ruled before you. I will confirm him as king over my house and my kingdom for all time, and his throne will be secure forever.”

Dead religion attacks your shout. Dead religion tries to silence your praise. There is a moment where your praise ignites something in the crowd about what the Lord is worthy of.

Praise is a weapon that defeats the enemy. You don't have to have a great voice or a loud shout; God hears the faintest whisper and comes to bring freedom.

[Luke 19:39-40, AMP]

Some of the Pharisees from the crowd said to Him, “Teacher, rebuke Your disciples for shouting these Messianic praises.” Jesus replied, “I tell you, if these people keep silent, the stones will cry out in praise!”

When Jesus is revealed, true abandoned praise begins to erupt. It ushers in the authority of the King.

[Matthew 23:39]

Look, your house is left to you desolate. I tell you, you will not see me again until you say, ‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.’

[Revelation 7:9-10]

After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. 10 And they cried out in a loud voice: “Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb.”

FOR MONDAY—

1. Take time to recognize the coming King this Passion Week and find ways in your family and personal life to acknowledge His authority.
2. Reflect back on what the Lord has delivered you from and thank Him for where He is taking you right now.

TALK IT THROUGH

1. Who is someone whose arrival you were greatly anticipating? What did that look like in your time, space, heart, and behavior?
2. Why is the week of Palm Sunday to Easter also called Passion Week or Holy Week?
3. According to Matthew 21, what did the shouts of “Hosanna” mean? What did those identify about Jesus as he rode into Jerusalem?
4. What is the tension between Friday and Sunday during Passion Week? In this season of life globally, how can the times we’re living in feel like “Friday?” What is the tension lies for us personally between the first and second triumphal entry? [Revelation 19:11-16]
5. What does the laying down of the garments in front of the king represent? What are you releasing when we do that spiritually?
6. What are your palm branches? How do you celebrate what God has saved you from? What would it look like to wave those, not to the credit of the enemy but to the honor of the King?
7. What is trying to silence your shout today? How can we push past these obstacles?
8. How do you take your ordinary, everyday life and place it before God as an offering?