



THINK  
ABOUT  
IT

**Luke 19: 28-44**

Palm Sunday is the day the church traditionally celebrates Jesus' entry into Jerusalem during the last week of his earthly life. This is the week when Jesus is "the King who comes in the name of the Lord!" (Luke 19:38). He is the Messiah, the Son of David, the fulfillment of God's promise! But the Jews misunderstood that Jesus was going to take over as an immediate earthly King who would set Israel free from Roman rule. This would happen, but not during the week of Palm Sunday; it would happen a whole generation later.

Pastor Alec mentioned that, in Matthew's account of Palm Sunday, there were three entities present when Jesus entered Jerusalem: the Romans, the Jews and Jesus Himself. Each viewed the event from a different perspective. Each of them asked, "Who is Jesus to me?"

1. What did each of these groups think of Jesus?
2. Who is Jesus to you?
3. Has your perception of Jesus has changed since you first became a Christian?

TALK  
ABOUT  
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Pastor Alec challenged us to look at this passage (Luke 19:28-44) and seriously do some self-reflecting on this week of Palm Sunday. The Jews had no doubt the triumphant entry of Jesus marked the fulfillment of Zachariah's prophecy, but they forgot the part about the donkey! (Zechariah 9:9-10). He would be the long-awaited Messiah, the King of Israel, the King of the whole earth! This was the day of incredible excitement! What would Jesus do? Would He wipe out Rome on the spot? Call down fire from above? Start a people's revolution? The tension of that moment must have been tremendous. Though the Pharisees asked Jesus to quiet His disciples, He answered, "I tell you, if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out" (Luke 19:40). The people would not be silenced any more. But Jesus didn't come on a horse or a chariot on Palm Sunday. Rather, He was on a donkey. He did not come with legions of soldiers carrying armor on Palm Sunday. Rather, He came with unarmed peasants waving palm leaves. Though Jesus arrived humbly on Palm Sunday, one day He will come as a mighty warrior destroying evil forever!

*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. And they cried out in a loud voice: "Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb." – Revelations 7: 9-10*

1. How will you be ready when Jesus comes again for His people?
2. What are you most excited about for this year's Holy Week?

LIVE  
IT

This week, spend some quiet time with God in prayer, asking Him to prepare your heart for the upcoming Good Friday and Easter weekend and what He wants to reveal to you during this Holy Week.

If your group is able to serve in New Hope Kids during the Good Friday or Saturday Easter services, please email Aja Olson ASAP at [AjaO@newhopeleeward.org](mailto:AjaO@newhopeleeward.org).

*Sermon by Pastor Alec Shimizu  
Sermon Based by Pastor Vance Hartzell  
Family Moments by Andrea Manuel*

**FAMILY MOMENT**

Fun ways to help your kids understand Palm Sunday

- Read the story in Matthew 21:1-11 together. If your children can read, take turns reading. Reading together is a great way to bond as a family, and it helps kids gain a better understanding of what they are reading.
- Ask questions! You'll get to hear their hearts as they articulate their understanding of God's Word. Even if they don't quite understand something, allow them to express their understanding. Instead of thinking that you need to correct them, think of it as a discipleship opportunity! It's okay if they don't get everything exactly right! They'll hear it again and again!

Here are some fun questions you could ask:

- What would you do if a King visited you? How would you prepare?
- Why did the people lay palm branches and cloaks before Jesus?
- What were they shouting as Jesus entered their town? What does that mean?

- Discuss ways we can treat Jesus as a King.
- Pray together!