

Discuss

Palm Sunday marks the beginning of a week designed to focus our attention on the passion, or suffering, of Jesus culminating in His death, burial and the celebration of His resurrection.

- How do you typically observe this week leading up to Easter Sunday?
- How can the five days during Holy Week (Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday) that are traditionally set apart shape how you observe and celebrate this week?

The people welcoming Jesus to Jerusalem greeted Him with high praise and honor, anticipating His rescue of their oppression. Much like us today, they wanted rescue from their present circumstances. Jesus had something else in mind. He wanted to rescue us from our sinful nature and separation from God.

Many in the crowd spread their garments on the road ahead of him, and others spread leafy branches they had cut in the fields. Jesus was in the center of the procession, and the people all around him were shouting, “Praise God! Blessings on the one who comes in the name of the Lord!” ([Mark 11:8-9. NIV](#))

On reaching Jerusalem, Jesus entered the temple courts 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 would not allow anyone to carry merchandise through the temple courts. 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.’” ([Mark 11:15-17. NIV](#))

- How does your everyday praise of Jesus compare to the praise he received the first Palm Sunday?
- Are there areas of your life that you are not giving completely over to Jesus?
- What will it take for you to invite Jesus completely into your life?

Palm Sunday is a time to remember what Jesus did for us on the cross and how thankful we should be for it. Communion, or the Lord’s Supper, was instituted by Jesus to help us remember this time.

“[Jesus] took bread, gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, ‘This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me.’ In the same way, after the supper he took the cup, saying, ‘This cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is poured out for you.’” ([Luke 22:19-20 NIV](#))

- What does Jesus’s life mean to you?
- How often do you take time to remember what Jesus did and express gratitude to Him?
- Other than communion, in what ways can you celebrate Jesus on a regular basis?

Next Steps

This week is a special time in the life of a Christian. It’s all to help us remember what Jesus did for all of us. Take some time this week to reflect on the life of Jesus and what it means. Use the time to express your gratitude for what He did as well as for how He has and will continue to work in your life.

Apr. 4: [Easter at Meck Outdoor Celebration](#)

Apr. 12: [Evangelism in the Modern World](#)

Apr. 25: [Hygiene Drive](#)

Continued Reading

Read [Mark 11:1-10](#); Luke [10:38](#); [13:22](#); [18:31-33](#); [22:19-20](#).

Prayer

God, thank you for the life of Jesus. Thank you for his sacrifice and for raising him to give us hope and a restored relationship with you. We praise you and honor you as we celebrate this week. Help us to reflect our gratitude on a regular basis.