

Today:
March 29, 2015

Scripture Focus: Mark 11:1-11

11 As Jesus and his disciples approached Jerusalem, they came to the towns of Bethphage and Bethany on the Mount of Olives. Jesus sent two of them on ahead. ² “Go into that village over there,” he told them. “As soon as you enter it, you will see a young donkey tied there that no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. ³ If anyone asks, ‘What are you doing?’ just say, ‘The Lord needs it and will return it soon.’”

⁴ The two disciples left and found the colt standing in the street, tied outside the front door. ⁵ As they were untying it, some bystanders demanded, “What are you doing, untying that colt?” ⁶ They said what Jesus had told them to say, and they were permitted to take it. ⁷ Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their garments over it, and he sat on it. ⁸ Many in the crowd spread their garments on the road ahead of him, and others spread leafy branches they had cut in the fields. ⁹ 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!

¹⁰ Blessings on the coming Kingdom of our ancestor David!

Praise God in highest heaven!”

¹¹ So Jesus came to Jerusalem and went into the Temple. After looking around carefully at everything, he left because it was late in the afternoon. Then he returned to Bethany with the twelve disciples.

(Mark 11:1-11, New Living Translation)

Notes from Worship:

How did God catch your attention? To what is God calling you this week?

Questions for Discussion:

- What was the special meaning of this kind of welcome for Jesus coming into Jerusalem? What are the O.T. links to riding on a donkey, and spreading branches in the road?
- How does this story read differently when you read it as a flashback, having already read through the rest of Holy Week’s events?

This Week:
March 30-April 4

Scripture Readings:

Monday 3/30	Tuesday 3/31	Wednesday 4/1	Thursday 4/2	Friday 4/3	Saturday 4/4
Isaiah 59-63	Isaiah 64-66	2 Kings 21; 2 Chron. 33	Nahum 1-3	Zephaniah 1-3	2 Kings 22-23; 2 Chron. 34-35

Questions for Reflection:

These questions are meant to help get you thinking about the readings for each day. Feel free to also use this space to jot down other questions and insights gleaned from your reading.

Monday

What in these chapters brings you the most hope? Why?

Tuesday

What do you learn in these chapters about God's future plans? How does this fit with your current understandings?

Wednesday

What was the worst thing that King Manasseh did? Why?

Thursday

What do you learn about God's judgment in the book of Nahum?

Friday

What do you learn about God's judgment in the book of Zephaniah? How is judgment portrayed similarly between Nahum and Zephaniah? How is it portrayed differently?

Saturday

What do you find most significant about King Josiah's reign?

Taking Scripture to Heart:

As we continue focusing on the life and teachings of Jesus, our memory text is **Philippians 2:5-11**. Let these verses dwell within you, to help you focus on Jesus Christ, the center of our faith.

Next Sunday: April 5, 2015

Theme: Easter the Resurrection

Scripture Focus: *1 Corinthians 15:1-10a; Mark 16:1-8*