

# Journey Through Lent - Holy Week

As we begin Holy Week, may we constantly be reminded of its significance and value for our lives today. Palm Sunday is a day of great celebration! There was a jubilant atmosphere among the people of Israel on this day as Jesus rode into Jerusalem. The people took palm branches and began to shout, "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the King of Israel!"

For centuries Israel had awaited the coming of their king. But this king did not look as they would have expected. Kings rode on horses. This king rode a donkey. Kings wore royal clothing. This king wore the clothes of a humble peasant. Kings had many servants. This king served many. This king was unlike any other king, and yet when this king rode into Jerusalem on a donkey, he was hailed by the people. As we reflect on how Jesus lived this final week, we can express our thankfulness for God's gift of Jesus by responding to His grace and choosing to live in Jesus' footsteps.

When you hear the story of Jesus' entrance to Jerusalem, whose viewpoint do you relate to? The people's? Jesus'? The disciples'? Talk about why.



The  
Palm Branch

# READ

Mark 11: 1-10

# PRAY

Oh, Lord and our loving God, thank you for coming to earth as a person to show us how to love one another. Please be in our thoughts, words and actions this week so others will experience your gracious love through us. In the name of Jesus we pray, amen.

# ACT

Walk outside and gather small branches or flowers to represent the first signs of spring. Play worship music and celebrate the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem by saying “Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!”

Week 1

# Holy Week - The Palm Branch

# Journey Through Lent - Good Friday

Joseph of Arimathea took Jesus' body and prepared him for burial. He wrapped him in a clean linen cloth, placed him in the tomb, and rolled a stone in front of the entrance. In Matthew's version, guards were stationed outside Jesus' tomb to make sure the disciples didn't try to steal his body. Jesus was dead.

Think about that day: Jesus died on the cross and his disciples went into hiding. Everything they had worked for and given up was gone. It had all fallen apart. Our lives feel like that sometimes. Something happens and then all of a sudden, everything we worked for is gone. With Jesus in the tomb, the disciples were waiting to see what would happen next. How are you waiting for God to move? What are you waiting for God to do? As you wait for the Lord, remember God can be trusted to keep his promises.



The Tomb

# READ

Matthew 27:57-66

# PRAY

Talk to God about what you are waiting on Him to do. Ask for help to trust that He will keep his promises. Ask for help in the waiting.

# ACT

Create a tomb out of blankets and chairs. Look inside at the darkness. Think about how dark it sometimes feels in your life, when it feels like God is silent and we are just waiting. Turn on a flashlight and remember even in the darkness there is light. God's light cannot be extinguished. His love is always there. He is always there, even when it feels as if we are alone.

*Week 1*

## Good Friday - The Tomb