



THE WEEK — THAT — CHANGED THE WORLD

PURSUEGOD.ORG/HOLYWEEK

Overview:

This series focuses on Holy week where Jesus' earthly ministry leads to his crowning achievement of dying on the cross and rising again.

Lessons:

1. Palm Sunday - The Triumphal Entry
2. Good Friday - The Road to Golgatha
3. Easter Sunday - The Road to Emmaus



HOLY WEEK - PALM SUNDAY

Find discipleship resources at pursueGOD.org/holyweek

TALKING POINTS

How do you see Jesus? Palm Sunday opens our eyes to Jesus as he really is, not as we expect him to be.

- Some see Jesus as a _____ - and reject him no matter what the evidence says. John 12:9-11
- Some see Jesus as _____ - and obey him even when they don't have the full picture. Luke 19:29-31, Zechariah 9:9
- Some people see their _____ version of Jesus - and desert him when he fails to meet their expectations. Matthew 21:8-9

DISCUSSION

1. *In our culture today, why is Jesus a threat? Before you came to Jesus, what were you unwilling to give up for Him?*
2. *Read John 12:9-11. Why were the priests threatened by Jesus? What did Lazarus signify to them?*
3. *Read John 19:29-31. How do you relate to the disciples in this story - trusting in Jesus even when you don't understand the full picture?*
4. *Read Matthew 21:8-9. Why were the people willing to give Jesus such a grand welcome that day? Why was their version of Jesus wrong?*
5. *Read Matthew 27:22. Why do Christians tend to desert Jesus today? How have you been guilty of creating your own version of Jesus?*
6. *Read Revelation 7:9-10. How do you need to let Jesus back on the throne of your life?*

HOLY WEEK - GOOD FRIDAY

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TALKING POINTS

As we remember Good Friday, we can learn from the unlikely characters who encountered Jesus on the road to Golgotha – the site of the crucifixion.

- Simon of Cyrene: Sometimes life brings _____ – and we find ourselves suddenly confronted with the cross. Luke 23:26
- The crowd of women: When a sense of sin has been _____ in us, we will mourn – not for what Christ has suffered, but for what He suffered for us. Luke 23:27-31
- The two criminals: We're all _____ at the foot of the cross, and we can respond to Jesus with skepticism or belief. Luke 23:32-33, 39-43

DISCUSSION

1. *Share a life event that caused you to question your faith. How did you resolve that tension or what did you learn from that struggle?*
2. *Read Luke 23:26. What do you think Simon thought as he carried that heavy cross? What are some heavy burdens you're currently carrying?*
3. *Read Luke 23:27-31 and Isaiah 53:5. How have you viewed Good Friday in the past? What should we really be grieving on this day?*
4. *Read Luke 23:32-43. How have you acted more like the first criminal in the passage? What was the attitude of the second criminal that ultimately changed his eternal destiny?*
5. *Read 1 John 1:9. What is required for salvation? How will you approach Jesus this Good Friday?*

HOLY WEEK - EASTER SUNDAY

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TALKING POINTS

Three days after his crucifixion, Jesus was raised from the dead. His appearance to two disciples on the road to Emmaus opens our eyes to his true identity.

- On the road to Emmaus, two disciples explained the events of Holy Week to Jesus – without _____ it was him! Luke 24:13-21
- Jesus revealed the part they missed (his _____) and took them through several prophecies in the Old Testament. He opened their eyes and they recognized who he was! Luke 24:25-27
- Then Jesus appeared to the other disciples and opened their minds to understand the mystery of the scriptures: that suffering was part of the plan all along. Jesus' crowning achievement was to _____ sin and death and establish his rule in our hearts. Luke 24:45-48

LESSON #3 OF 3

DISCUSSION

1. *What are your favorite Easter traditions?*
2. *Read Luke 24:13-21. Based on the list, how have you thought of Jesus in the past? What other things would you add to the list?*
3. *Read Luke 24:25-27 and Isaiah 53:1-12. Why is Jesus frustrated with their perspective? How have you been guilty of accepting parts of God's truth but not others?*
4. *Read Luke 24:31,45-48. How have your eyes been opened to Jesus like these disciples? What is the central message of Easter?*
5. *What more do you need to learn about Jesus in order to put your trust in Him?*

