



LEADER'S NOTES

Palm Sunday

John 12:13

Question 1 allows your group to spend time with our focus Scripture. My advice is to ensure that everyone in your group says something about this lengthy passage. If they comment on the first question, they may be much more willing to participate in the discussion in future questions.

Question 2 deals with the first event of Palm Sunday, the triumphal entry. The heart of this question asks: Which areas of your life could you confidently say Jesus is King, and which areas would you have to admit you still struggle to keep control? This question is designed to allow members of your group to feel comfortable sharing places where they struggle to give God full control. The best way to make this question worthwhile would be for you as the leader to share first by being open and transparent.

Question 3 discusses Jesus weeping over Jerusalem. I intentionally left this question somewhat open-ended. In my opinion, Jesus weeps over Jerusalem because they missed the most monumental opportunity of all time. They rejected the Son of God, and because He loves them, He is deeply moved by the destruction He knows will come at the hands of the Romans. Jesus' weeping reveals His profound love even for those who reject Him.

Question 4 deals with the third event of Palm Sunday, the cleansing of the Temple. Again, I left the first section of this question somewhat open-ended. In the question, I specifically ask: Why do you think Jesus cleanses the Temple? What personal takeaway do you have from this third event of Palm Sunday?

Some good answers to this question would include:

- It is His nature to purify and make righteous.
- Jesus demonstrated His desire for mankind, and He died on the cross so that all people could be cleansed.
- Jesus is angry with the corruption of God's holy Temple.
- God also wants to cleanse us and purify us from all unrighteousness because our bodies are now the Temple of the Holy Spirit.

In the latter part of the question, I discuss God's desire to start with His people when He is doing a work of cleansing and purification.