

Weekly Bible Study for Highcliffe and Bransgore Methodist Churches

Holy Week 2021

The Palm Sunday passage is the culmination of what is known as Jesus' "travel narrative" which begins all the way back in Luke 9:21 when Jesus foretells His death and resurrection. From here until His entry into the Holy City, Jesus goes about His journey preaching about the coming of His Father's Kingdom through parables and instruction. Throughout the entire journey however, His disciples who are with Him never seem to quite understand why they're headed to Jerusalem or what's going to happen when they get there. It's easy for us to look at the 12 apostles in light of all of Jesus' Gospel references to His passion and think, "Come on guys, you've been traveling with Jesus all this time and you still don't have a clue do you?" But do we really understand why Christ's Passion had to take place the way it did?

Read Luke 9:28-36. Jesus meets with Moses and Elijah on the mountain top, they are "speaking of his departure which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem." Have you noticed before that "departure" explicitly means all that is now occurring during Holy Week and "accomplish" links clearly to Jesus' words on the cross, "it is finished" (John 19:30). **Q1 Does this change at all the way you read the Transfiguration account and the significance of it being Moses and Elijah who meet with Jesus?**

Read Luke 9:51-56. Here, Jesus "sets His face" to travel to Jerusalem. Before He goes however, notice that He sends messengers before Him to prepare His way in every town He will visit along the way. **Q2. Have you noticed this before? Why do you think He does this?**

Read Luke 17:24-25 and 18:31-33. **Q3. What is Jesus trying to tell His disciples in these verses? Do they (and you) understand Him?**

Read Luke 19:33-39. **Q4. Jesus seems to enter Jerusalem in a somewhat unusual way (on a colt), yet all of the bystanders seem to know exactly what's going on. Why do you think this is?**

Read Luke 19:45-46. Immediately upon entering Jerusalem, Jesus heads straight for the Temple. When He reaches it, He acts in a way we might not expect. **Q5. Why does Jesus act in this way? Does this still happen today?**

Read Luke 19:47-48. We see here that Jesus' enemies are ready to put Him to death. **Q6. According to these verses, what prevents them? Q7. Are you (captivated, spellbound, attentive) by/to His every word/teaching?**

Going back to the second passage we considered (Luke 9:51-56). **Q8. In what ways does Jesus call us to be His messengers today?**

Based on a study provided by FOCUS (Fellowship of Catholic University Students) 2015.