

HOLY WEEK & easter

DIG DEEPER QUESTIONS



APRIL 2: PALM SUNDAY

MARK 11:1-10

1. Jesus sent disciples to get the colt. He delegated responsibilities to them allowing them to be involved. What effect did this have on the disciples? If you consider yourself to be a disciple of Jesus, how are you helping or serving others?
2. Jesus demonstrated His omniscience; his instructions were specific and fulfilled prophecy. The owner of the colt did not resist offering help, he gave willingly. Why do you suppose he did not hold back? If you were the owner, would you have offered your colt willingly? Do you offer what you have now to God with an open hand, a willing heart and with joy?
3. **Read Psalm 50:10**, what does this verse reveal about God? A vision of Shepherd's Gate is that we live generously with every[thing] we have, what is God asking of you to give for His glory?
4. **Read I Corinthians 13:4-6**, list what love is and what love is not. Comparing yourself to these characteristics, what stands out most to you?
5. Imagine being in the crowd when Jesus entered Jerusalem, you join the chant, "Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord." What does that mean and how does it show love for Jesus?

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APRIL 6: MAUNDY THURSDAY

JOHN 13:1-5

1. I Corinthians 13:7a reads, "Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things . . ." Define these three characteristics of love, how did Jesus display this kind of love at the Feast of the Passover? When have you shown this kind of love toward another person?
2. The first Passover was a display of God's love to the Israelites, redeeming them from slavery. Jesus is about to go to the cross providing a new way of redemption for believers. What does John 13:1 tell you about Jesus' love? To what "end" did He love?
3. Jesus, knowing Judas was going to betray him, humbled himself and washed his feet. Jesus also knew it was Satan who had tempted Judas. Given these two facts, what do you learn about Jesus' love?
4. How do you respond to someone who is not kind or who you consider an enemy? If you consider yourself a disciple of Jesus, how should you respond? (See I Corinthians 13)

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APRIL 7: GOOD FRIDAY

MATTHEW 27:37-44

1. Love endures all things (1 Corinthians 13:7b). What hardships might you endure out of love for someone else?
2. Read today's passage and list the insults hurled at Jesus. What was Jesus' motive allowing him to endure them? Have you ever been insulted in such a way and if so, how did you respond?
3. What do you think kept Jesus on the cross?
4. Understanding the depth of Jesus' love for you and knowing you are to show that love to others (John 13:34-35), in what ways will you put yourself aside to serve others inside and outside of SG church?

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APRIL 8 & 9: EASTER WEEKEND

JOHN 21:15-19

1. Jesus uses two different Greek words for love: agapeo (agape) and phileo. Agape is often considered a purer, higher love while phileo, a devoted, brotherly affection. Why do you suppose Jesus used two different verbs when addressing Peter?
2. Why did Jesus question Peter's love three times?
3. After Peter confessed his love, what did Jesus commission him to do? What was the source of the food Peter was to feed the sheep/lamb? (See John 6:32-69)
4. Peter recognized his weakness and with Jesus he found his strength. How willing are you to allow Jesus to uncover your weakness and admit you love Him unconditionally?
5. *Read I Peter 1:22 and 3:8 and 4:8*, what do these verses tell us?
6. Will you commit to feed Jesus' sheep by living generously with every[thing] you have, influence every[where] you go and value every[one]? Consider being part of a small group, attend the service fair in April and sign up to 'feed' Jesus' sheep, or maybe invite 4 people to join you at church for worship or an event.