

Life Group Notes & Discussion Guide, April 13th, 2025

Series: **“The Road to Calvary”**

Message: **“Loved Today, Cursed Tomorrow”**

Sermon Text: **John 12:12-19**; Old Testament Text: **Leviticus 23:39-43**; New Testament Text: **Romans 10:5-11**. Read **John 12:12-19** as you listen to the sermon, then answer the questions below.

1. **Read John 12:12.** What feast is John referring to in this verse? (See **John 12:1-8** on p. 1143.)

What did Mary do for Jesus while He was seated at the feast?

2. **Read John 12:13.** What did waving the palm branches symbolize?

According to the gospel accounts in Matthew, Mark, and Luke, the crowd also spread their cloaks on the road in front of Jesus. What did this symbolize?

What did the word *hosanna* literally mean?

What title did the people give to Jesus in this verse?

3. **Read John 12:14-15.** Why was it so important that Jesus ride into Jerusalem on the colt of a donkey?

How had people expected the Messiah to enter Jerusalem?

What did Jesus demonstrate by riding into Jerusalem on the colt of a donkey?

4. **Read John 12:16.** Did Jesus’s disciples understand the significance of His riding the donkey right away?

According to this verse, when did the disciples finally understand the significance of these things?

5. **Read John 12:17.** According to this verse, what did the people who had witnessed Lazarus being raised from the dead continue to do along the way?

6. **Read John 12:18.** What was it that attracted new people to the crowd glorifying Jesus?

7. How was this like the crowd that had assembled to demand Jesus's death less than a week later?

8. **Read John 12:19.** After witnessing Jesus's triumphal entry into Jerusalem, what was the attitude of the Jewish religious leaders?

9. What will you remember most from this message?

Discussion Guide for Your Life Group Meeting

- I. At your Life Group meeting, first read **Leviticus 23:39-43** aloud. It can be helpful to have several people each read one verse from their Bible. This helps people feel involved and can also introduce some interesting discussion if several translations are used. After reading the passage discuss it. If you are having trouble stimulating discussion, you can try asking some of the following questions:
 1. According to your Bible, what Feast begins on the *fifteenth day of the seventh month*?
 2. According to **Lev. 23:40**, how are the people to *rejoice before the Lord* during this Feast?
 3. For how many days are the people to celebrate the *Feast of booths*?
 4. For how many days are the people to *live in booths*?
 5. What should the Israelites remember as they celebrate this Feast?
- II. Next read **Romans 9:30-10:11**, utilizing several group members to each read one verse aloud. After reading the passage discuss it. If you are having trouble stimulating discussion, you can try asking some of the following questions:
 1. According to **Romans 9:32**, how did the Jews pursue righteousness?
 2. In their ignorance, what did they stumble over?
 3. Although Paul credited the Jews with having a *zeal for God*, what prevented them from obtaining God's righteousness?
 4. According to Moses, how is righteousness based on the law obtained?
 5. Read **Deuteronomy 30:11-14** aloud. **Romans 10:6-8** is a paraphrase of this passage. What is Moses telling us in the passage from Deuteronomy?
 6. According to the apostle Paul, what are the two requirements of saving faith?
- III. Read **John 12:1-19**, utilizing several group members to each read one verse aloud. After reading the passage discuss it. If you are having trouble stimulating discussion, you can try asking some of the following questions:
 1. **Read John 12:12.** What feast is John referring to in this verse? (See **John 12:1-8 on p. 1143.**)
 2. What did Mary do for Jesus while He was seated at the feast?
 3. Besides Jesus, whom else did the crowds come to see?
 4. Because of his increasing popularity, what had the religious authorities began to plan?
 5. **Read John 12:13.** What did waving the palm branches symbolize?
 6. According to the gospel accounts in Matthew, Mark, and Luke, the crowd also spread their cloaks on the road in front of Jesus. What did this symbolize?
 7. What did the word *hosanna* literally mean?
 8. What title did the people give to Jesus in this verse?

9. **Read John 12:14-15.** Why was it so important that Jesus ride into Jerusalem on the colt of a donkey?
10. How had people expected the Messiah to enter Jerusalem?
11. What did Jesus demonstrate by riding into Jerusalem on the colt of a donkey?
12. **Read John 12:16.** Did Jesus's disciples understand the significance of His riding the donkey right away?
13. According to this verse, when did the disciples finally understand the significance of these things?
14. **Read John 12:17.** According to this verse, what did the people who had witnessed Lazarus being raised from the dead continue to do along the way?
15. **Read John 12:18.** What was it that attracted new people to the crowd glorifying Jesus?
16. How was this like the crowd that had assembled to demand Jesus's death less than a week later?
17. **Read John 12:19.** After witnessing Jesus's triumphal entry into Jerusalem, what was the attitude of the Jewish religious leaders?