

The Story

Jesus' Final Week

Sherwood Oaks Christian Church

Week of April 5, 2009

It is Easter season. The Sunday before Easter is traditionally known as Palm Sunday as we recall the branches laid down to pave the street in his honor as he entered Jerusalem at the beginning of his final week.

1. Share about a time when someone was being celebrated. Perhaps a president was in town, a sports team won a championship, prom king was crowned. Describe the atmosphere. Were there decorations, confetti, music, businesses closed, what else?

Read Matthew 21:1-11

2. What various reasons do you think people had for celebrating Jesus as he entered town?
3. Do you think everyone was excited that Jesus was there?
4. How did Jesus enter into YOUR life? (*Perhaps share a brief testimony of how you were introduced to Jesus.*)
5. Amazingly, this Jesus who was celebrated that day ended up nailed to a cross before the week was over. How can you explain such a drastic turn of events?
6. How might each of the following people feel about the fact that Jesus had died?
 - A person who had been healed months before by Jesus
 - Someone who gone to see Jesus preach to the crowds
 - Disciples close to him
 - Some religious leaders
7. Even if you absolutely understood EVERYTHING, including that he would rise again shortly, how would YOU have felt those few days? What would you have been doing?
8. As we near Easter this week, do you have any plans to focus on him and what happened nearly 2000 years ago?