

Lectionary Bible Study

For Sunday, March 24, 2024 (Palm Sunday)

Isaiah 50:1-11

Discussion Starters

1. What is God emphasizing with the rhetorical questions in verses 1-2?
2. Verses 4-9 are one of the four "Servant Songs" in Isaiah. How would you describe the servant's mission? What is his relationship to God?
3. What might cause the servant to be mistreated like this? (See Isaiah 28-9-10 and 30:9-11).
4. What might the prophet mean by those "in the dark" (v. 10)? How might the example of the servant encourage them?
5. Who are the people who "provide themselves with flaming torches?" What will happen to anyone who tries to find a solution apart from God?
6. Describe a time when you have been mistreated because of your faith.

Philippians 2:1-11

Discussion Starters

1. Based on what you read here, what issue(s) was the church in Philippi facing?
2. What does it mean to "consider others better than yourself?"
3. How does humility differ from "being a doormat?"
4. What do you think it was like for Jesus to leave heaven and become human?
5. How does this passage redefine what "success" looks like?
6. What would a church be like that practiced what Paul communicates in this passage?

Mark 11:1-19

Discussion Starters

1. Jesus always does the unexpected. What was unexpected about the way He entered Jerusalem? In light of the response He received, what were the expectations of the crowds?
2. What do you find to be the most important aspect of the Triumphal Entry?
3. How does the story of the fig tree relate to the cleaning out of the Temple?
4. Why would the actions of the Temple market personnel cause Jesus to get angry?
5. How is your understanding of Jesus impacted by this display of anger?

WRAP UP

What key insight did you gain from this Bible study? How might it make a difference in how you live today?