

Questions for Sermon Hope 3

Palm Sunday Sermon John 12:12-19

Here is a recap of the sermon to jog the memory, or orient those who didn't hear the sermon, along with some questions to think about. The questions are pastoral so you can discuss them even if you didn't manage to hear the sermon as was the case with some in our group. Just choose the questions that suit your group's situation the best rather than attempt them all.

- Brad explained the context of the palm waving entry into Jerusalem. It was the Passover week where Jews celebrated God 'passing over' his people, saving them from the disasters around them and from his wrath in Egypt.

QUESTION: *Where has God 'passed over' in your life? Where has he been faithful to his saving nature?*

- **Palm trees** are a powerful image:
 - Waving **fronds** symbolised victory at the time. Take time to register what is in this moment.

QUESTION *How are you living victoriously now?*

- Palms **bend** but do not break in a storm; rather they grow stronger because of storms.

QUESTION *Have you ever felt like a palm tree being blown over, but not broken because of your faith? Share how God helped you to not break.*

- Palms **thrive** in heat. At present the heat is being turned up!
- With a few palm trees together you get an **oasis**. Psalm 92:12 (*The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree*) It is God's will for his people to flourish. Take time to register where you are flourishing.

QUESTION *How are others an oasis to us and in what ways do you think we can be an oasis to others around us during this time? interesting how an oasis always requires a 'water' source!*



Question: Share how you plan to celebrate Easter this year in our unique circumstances.

Prayer: May God bless your sharing together and may this oasis place help us to bend and grow stronger.

