

## JESUS' PALM SUNDAY

April 1, 2023

### Bible Readings

Take a few minutes to read the Bible verses listed and ask the Holy Spirit to lead you in how this verse applies to you this week.

Mark 11:1-11

### Memory Verse

<sup>9</sup> In front of Jesus and behind him, people went along shouting, "Hooray! God bless the one who comes in the name of the Lord! <sup>10</sup> God bless the coming kingdom of our ancestor David. Hooray for God in heaven above!"

Mark 11:9-10



## CASEY'S DAY

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In Disney's popular musical *Aladdin*, young Aladdin falls in love with a powerful princess, but there's one problem: he's a penniless "street rat" who steals to survive. When Aladdin discovers a magic lamp, the genie inside transforms him into a wealthy prince. Hoping to impress Princess Jasmine, Aladdin parades onto the palace grounds wearing expensive clothes and riding an elephant ahead of a dazzling procession. Even though he's surrounded by servants, music, and dancing, the fake prince's showy entrance leaves Princess Jasmine unimpressed.

Christians celebrate a much different kind of triumphal entry every year before Easter, known as Palm Sunday. Unlike Aladdin, Jesus, God's true Son, traveled the dusty road into Jerusalem riding a donkey. By appearances, Jesus looked like a poor man. A humble servant.

Crowds gathered. Jesus' followers, many of whom were poor themselves, laid their coats along his path and cut palm branches to wave as he entered Jerusalem. They cried, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Hosanna in the highest!" Many recognized Jesus for the true King he was. Many others wondered, "Who is this man?"

Jesus' humble entry into Jerusalem shows that though you are small, you are important to God. In God's kingdom, it doesn't matter how much money you have, or how smart you are, or how important you look to others.

How can you be sure? During his earthly life, Jesus ministered to the kinds of people the world often forgets. What's more, Jesus made his triumphal entry into Jerusalem knowing he would sacrifice his life for those he loved. His kingdom belongs to each one of us, and we can welcome him with whatever we have. He doesn't want our riches or power. He wants our hearts.

Who did Jesus come for? He came for you.

## Prayer

Jesus, thank you that you came to die for our sins. As we celebrate Palm Sunday, help us to remember that your sacrifice is for each one of us, and—though we may be small—we are important to you. Help us to see past appearances and love each person the way you do. Amen.

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*written by Sara Korber-DeWeerd*

<https://kidscorner.net/devotions/jesus-palm-sunday>  
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