

Palm Sunday - How Now Shall We Live?

John 12:12-19

1. MAKE THE MOST OF OUR TIME.

Ephesians 5:15-16 *Be very careful, then, how you live--not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil.*

a. JESUS SET HIS FACE TO DO GOD'S WILL.

Luke 9:51–53 *ESV* *When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. And he sent messengers ahead of him, who went and entered a village of the Samaritans, to make preparations for him. But the people did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem. When the disciples James and John saw this, they asked, "Lord, do you want us to call fire down from heaven to destroy them?" But Jesus turned and rebuked them. Then he and his disciples went to another village.*

b. JESUS DIDN'T CHOOSE THE EASY ROUTE.

Luke 18:31–33 *ESV* *And taking the twelve, he said to them, "See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written about the Son of Man by the prophets will be accomplished. For he will be delivered over to the Gentiles and will be mocked and shamefully treated and spit upon. And after flogging him, they will kill him, and on the third day he will rise." The disciples did not understand any of this. Its meaning was hidden from them, and they did not know what he was talking about.*

c. PEOPLE MOSTLY DIDN'T UNDERSTAND JESUS UNTIL LATER.

John 12:12–15 *ESV* *The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying out, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!" And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written, "Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!" At first his disciples did not understand all this. Only after Jesus was glorified did they realize that these things had been written about him and that these things had been done to him.*

2. LET'S FIX OUR EYES ON JESUS CHRIST.

Heb 12:1b-2 *Let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.*

2 Corinthians 4:16–18 *Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day. For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.*

3. WHAT'S ON YOUR PANDEMIC BUCKET LIST?

12:30-31 *"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength." The second is this: "Love your neighbor as yourself." There is no commandment greater than these."*