

Easter Bible Study Guide

Week Beginning 25th March 2018

Reading: Luke 19: 28 – 44.

1. (Verses 28 -35) The two disciples to whom Jesus gave the task of bringing back an unriden colt, must have been reassured by the way that things turned out just as Jesus had predicted.

- Why might they have been apprehensive to start with?
- Why did the owners of the colt raise no objection when the animal was taken away?
- How might you have reacted in similar circumstances?
- What can we learn from this as Jesus' disciples today?

2. The triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem is recorded in all four Gospels (Matthew 21; Mark 11; John 12.) The event was clearly important to the Christians of the first century for whom these records were first intended.

- What is particularly significant for you about it?
- How do these four records help us to understand who Jesus is and strengthen our faith in him?

3. Jesus was accompanied on his journey into the city by a crowd of his followers who were shouting and singing.

- Why were they attracted to him and why was their support so short-lived and fickle?

- What does this teach us about the nature of true discipleship?

4. (Verses 39 & 40) Jesus knew that his popularity would evaporate within a few days.

- Why did he accept their song and rebuke the Pharisees instead?

- How does this illustrate the power of the spoken word of Scripture?

Week beginning 1st April

Reading: Luke 23:55 – 24:12

1. Contrary to the Jewish customs of the time, women played a significant part in the life and ministry of Jesus. Of the gospel writers, Luke seems to make a particular point of showing this.

- What might this group of women have been thinking as they sat at home with their spices prepared, waiting for the Sabbath to end so they could visit the tomb where Jesus had been buried?

- Why do you think the women were the first to hear the good news of the resurrection?

2. What steps did the heavenly messengers take to reassure the women when they could not find the body of Jesus?

- What convinced the women that Jesus was alive?

3. Returning to the eleven disciples, the women found that their words were not believed. Why was this?

- What did Peter do and why? How would you describe his actions?

- How might you have reacted had you been one of the disciples hearing the story told by the women?

4. What convinces you that Jesus rose from the grave?

- Why would you consider that belief in the resurrection is an essential part of the Christian faith?
- How would you respond to someone who claimed to be a Christian but told you that the resurrection of Jesus is a myth?