



further
reflections



March 29, 2026

Of Palms and Passion

Mark 11:1-10 and Psalm 118

1. Read Psalm 118. How is Psalm 118 central to the events of Holy Week?
2. What is the significance of verses 1 and 29 of Psalm 118 being identical? What does this convey? What does it mean for your life?
3. The word “Hosanna” means “save us.” On Palm Sunday, what were the people hoping that Jesus might save them from? How did their pre-conceived expectations lead them to shout “crucify him” just five days later?
4. Read Psalm 118:8-9. Why might these two verses have been especially meaningful to Jesus? Why might they be especially meaningful for us?
5. Read John 16:32. When Jesus cried out “*My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?*” while on the cross, do you believe that he knew the Father was with him, even then?
6. Psalm 118 was very likely the last hymn that Jesus sang with his disciples, before taking to the cross. Why is this Psalm especially appropriate for the end of a Passover meal?
7. Read Psalm 118:14. What goes through your mind thinking about the One who brings us salvation praying to the Father for his salvation?
8. How does Psalm 118 bring hope to your life?
9. For discussion in your group: how are you preparing your heart and mind this week in advance of next Sunday?