

Holy Week: The Week of Jesus' Death

Many events formative to our Christian faith occurred in the last week of Jesus' life. On Palm Sunday, we remember how he entered Jerusalem riding on a donkey to shouts of "Hosanna!" from a crowd that did not understand who he was or what he was doing. On Maundy Thursday, Jesus and his disciples sat down for a traditional Passover meal that broke tradition: Jesus instituted the Lord's Supper and gave a new command, "Love one another" (John 13:34). That night, Judas betrayed Jesus, leading to Good Friday, the day Jesus endured trials and beatings, and ultimately, died on the cross. Finally, we reach Holy Saturday. For the disciples, it was a day of sabbath and sorrow; for us, it is a day of introspection, meditation, and anticipation. As we journey through Holy Week together, we create space for God's Word to nurture our faith and deepen our gratitude for God's great love and Jesus' profound sacrifice.

AWARENESS Before listening reflect on what you already know or understand about topics we'll cover in the episode.

- Which Holy Week traditions do you find meaningful? Why?
- What do you think symbolizes humility today?



LISTEN TO THE EPISODE: [*Holy Week: The Week of Jesus' Death*](#)

READ [Matthew 21:1-11](#), [John 13:1-17, 34-35](#), [Matthew 26:26-30](#), [Matthew 27:32-50](#)

REFLECTION After listening, consider the following questions:

- In segment 1, hosts Darrell Delaney and Scott Hoezee remarked that the crowd in Jerusalem said all the right things but for the wrong reasons. The people did not understand what Jesus was doing. Have you ever been like the crowd, saying the right things for the wrong reasons? What are your expectations of Jesus?
- Is it possible for Christians today to cry "Hosanna!" one day, and then a few days later yell "Crucify him!" because Jesus doesn't meet our expectations or support our agenda? Why or why not?
- In segment 2, Darrell and Scott discussed how Jesus washed his disciples' feet to demonstrate the servant's heart of love he wanted them to have for one another. What might be a modern example of foot washing in our culture?
- Many of Jesus' actions during Holy Week fulfilled Old Testament prophecies. What does that mean to you?

RELATED PASSAGES for further study

[Mark 11:1-11](#), [Luke 19:28-44](#), and [John 12:12-19](#), [Mark 14:12-72](#), [Luke 22:7-65](#), and [John 15:1-18:27](#), [Mark 15](#), [Luke 22:66-23:55](#), and [John 18:28-19:42](#), [Luke 23:56](#), [Zechariah 9:9](#), [Isaiah 55:8-9](#), [Exodus 12](#), [Genesis 3:14-15](#), [Matthew 4:1-11](#), [Mark 1:12-13](#), and [Luke 4:1-13](#), [Isaiah 53:5](#)

CONCLUSION

At the end of the episode, Scott and Darrell recognized the profound significance of these events in Jesus' journey to the cross for our Christian faith. They identified three practical ways we can nurture our faith during Holy Week:

- Pause to reflect
- Meditate, participate in worship
- Practice silence and gratitude

Be intentional. When, where, and how will you engage with Holy Week this year?

<https://groundworkonline.com/episodes/holy-week-the-week-of-jesus-death>

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