PALM SUNDAY

FAMILY DEVOTION

12 THE NEXT DAY THE GREAT CROWD THAT HAD COME FOR THE FESTIVAL HEARD THAT JESUS WAS ON HIS WAY TO JERUSALEM. 13 THEY TOOK PALM BRANCHES AND WENT OUT TO MEET HIM, SHOUTING,“HOSANNA! “BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD! BLESSED IS THE KING OF ISRAEL!”

JOHN 12:12-13

FULL STORY: JOHN CHAPTER 12

After Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead, he entered Jerusalem. When he arrived on a donkey, many people recognized how special he was and gathered to welcome him with palm branches! Others did not understand who Jesus was and why people were gathering around him. This is not what some expected a king to look like or how they expected a king to come to them.

WHAT DOES "HOSANNA" MEAN?

The people shouted "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!" and referred to Jesus as the "King of Israel." While this does sound very exciting, what does all this mean?
"Hosanna" means "deliver us" or "save us". The people of Jerusalem had heard about the miracles and good work that Jesus had been doing during his ministry. They believed in his purpose and wanted him to deliver them from oppression.

In what ways can we ask Jesus to deliver us now?

WHY WERE SOME PEOPLE CONFUSED ABOUT THE CELEBRATION OF JESUS?

Some people in Jerusalem did not recognize Jesus as King or understand why people were celebrating his arrival. Powerful people in Jerusalem felt threatened by the way people responded to Jesus. Even Jesus's disciples didn't understand what was going on at first.

However, when they saw that Jesus was being glorified, they remembered that Jesus is here to fulfill the prophecy. For it is written, “Do not be afraid, Daughter Zion; see, your king is coming, seated on a donkey’s colt.” (John 12:15)

How would you expect a King to come into your land? A grand horse, maybe a trumpet and a full parade? This was one man dressed simply and on a donkey. He was peaceful and humble. Not like a King they have seen before at all. Some people did not understand that Jesus was coming to be a different type of king. His kingdom was a kingdom of peace and he was coming to save the world from sin and death.

DEAR LORD,
AS WE ENTER HOLY WEEK PREPARE OUR HEARTS. LET US HEAR YOUR WORD AND ENJOY OUR TIME AS A FAMILY THIS WEEK AND ALWAYS.
HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST!
AMEN.