

DAILY LENT MEDITATIONS

To receive daily video devos, text **tlc** to **41411**

MONDAY

What struck home for you in last weekend's message? Read Mark 11:1-11. Think of your life right now. How might you be trying to give God an agenda or timing or method that is not His? How does that affect your life? Ask God to help you surrender to His plan for your life, whether or not it matches yours!

TUESDAY

Read Mark 11:12-21. Ok, at first glance, this doesn't look good for Jesus. Why would he do this? Find out more in today's video devo. Short answer: In Spring, fig trees would have had lots of beautiful leaves. But this one had no fruit. Jesus is making it an object lesson about the temple. Looked great! No fruit. How about you? Ask God to help you see yourself accurately, and then ask Him for growth.

WEDNESDAY

There will be times you're not certain of Jesus' timing or agenda or methods in your life. But you can always be certain of His love and his ultimate purpose! Re-read Mark 10:45. What is His mission, according to these verses? As you listen to the "Worship Wednesday" song in today's video devo, thank God today for His amazing love for you.

THURSDAY

Read Mark 12:10,11. We saw last weekend how the people on Palm Sunday shouted verses from Psalm 118, sort of a national anthem for Israel at the time, to welcome Jesus as Messiah. Then when he didn't meet their agenda, many rejected him. Here Jesus quotes another verse from the same Psalm to show that the rejection of the Messiah was in fact prophesied. It's fitting that a Messiah who welcomed society's rejects was himself rejected. Thank God that he knows what it is like to be human, to the lowest level. And thank Him that he was willing to suffer rejection so you can enjoy acceptance!

FRIDAY

Read Mark 12:28-34. In Jesus' day, there were so many religious commands that people often argued over which ones were the most important, since it would be difficult to keep them all. Here Jesus says two commands are far more important than any others. What are they? Ask God today to help you make these commands your ultimate priority in following Jesus.

SATURDAY

Read Mark 13:1,2. In Jesus' lifetime, the temple had been elaborately remodeled by King Herod. Yet Jesus says it will be utterly destroyed. Why is he ok with this? Because he came to make a way to God that requires no temple! Pray for the weekend services as we prepare to study this important idea!



PART 2: THE PLOT

RENE SCHLAEPFER
FEBRUARY 24 & 25

As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples, saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and just as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here shortly.'"

They went and found a colt outside in the street, tied at a doorway. As they untied it, some people standing there asked, "What are you doing, untying that colt?" They answered as Jesus had told them to, and the people let them go. When they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks over it, he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, while others spread branches they had cut in the fields. Those who went ahead and those who followed shouted, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!" Mark 11:1-11

Revealing questions about this story:

Why enter from the east? _____

Why a "colt"? _____

How many people is "many"? _____

Why palm branches? _____

What does "Hosanna" mean? "_____!"

What's the crowd shouting? _____

(The next day) On reaching Jerusalem, Jesus entered the temple courts and began driving out those who were buying and selling there. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the benches of those selling doves, and would not allow anyone to carry merchandise through the temple courts... He said, "Is it not written: 'My house will be called a house of prayer for all nations'? But you have made it 'a den of robbers.'" The chief priests and the teachers of the law heard this and began looking for a way to kill him, for they feared him... Mark 11:15-18

Why overturn the temple tables? _____

Why antagonize so many? _____

THREE FAITH LESSONS FROM THIS STORY:

1. God's _____ is not always my _____

See Mark 8:31-33; 13:1,2

We come to God with our _____ needs

Jesus goes to our _____ needs

2. God's _____ are not always my _____

See Mark 12:10,11

3. God's _____ is not always my _____

See Mark 13:3,4

"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the Lord. "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts." Isaiah 55:8-9

THE BIG IDEA:

God does have a _____.

God's plan will always _____ me.

God's plan is always _____.

After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. Revelation 7:9



EASTER IS EARLY THIS YEAR!

GOOD FRIDAY

3/30 • 5 & 7PM

EASTER WEEKEND

3/31 • 4 & 6PM

4/1 • 8:30, 10, & 11:30AM