

Palm Sunday

Let The Rocks Cry Out

LifeNotes

TALK IT OVER

Main Idea

Pain doesn't draw you forward...praise, celebration, and rejoicing does.

Key Scriptures

I will praise the Lord at all times. I will constantly speak his praises. I will boast only in the Lord; let all who are helpless take heart. Come, let us tell of the Lord's greatness; let us exalt his name together. Psalm 34:1-3 NLT

All those who were in distress or in debt or discontented gathered around him, and he became their commander. 1 Samuel 22:2 NIV

When he came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen: "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Peace in heaven and glor in the highest!" Luke 19:37-38 NIV

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples!" "I tell you," he replied, "if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out." Luke 19:39-40 NIV

Against its will, all creation was subjected to God's curse. But with eager hope, the creation looks forward to the day when it will join God's children in glorious freedom from death and decay. Romans 8:20-21 NLT

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!

Philippians 4:4 NIV

Both David and the disciples chose to shift their focus toward God.

- From their pain to their provider.
- From their hurt to their healer.
- From their fear to their faith.
- From their circumstance to their savior.
- From their captivity to their King.
- From their labor to their Lord.

Start talking.

- How have you allowed your circumstances to dictate your celebrations?
- Why do we often make rejoicing and praise an, "if, then" situation?

Start thinking.

- Read Psalm 34:1-3. Why is this important? Where then is a healthy place for sorrow?
- Read 1 Samuel 22:2. What had led David to the cave he and others were gathered in? Why write Psalm 34 during that circumstance?
- Read Luke 19:37-40. Why were they shouting and celebrating? What about their hardships had changed?
- Why did the Pharisees want them to shut up?
- If the disciples had been quiet, why would the "stones cry out"?

Start sharing.

- What pain, hardship, or circumstance are your struggling to walk through?
- What feels most overwhelming about it?
- How might shifting your focus to Jesus impact things?

Start doing.

- Read Philippians 4:4.
- Begin each day praising Jesus for at least one thing.
- End each day rejoicing in Jesus for at least one thing.

Closing prayer.

Jesus, you are Lord of lords and King of kings! You are the author and perfecter of my faith and the lover of my soul. I will choose today to bless your holy name. I choose to praise you in my pain, and celebrate you through these hard circumstances. Help me to fix my eyes on you and trust you for my future. Amen