

Discussion Questions

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion

March 29, 2015



[At the Procession with Palms: Mark 11:1-10](#)
[or John 12:12-16](#)
[Reading I: Isaiah 50:4-7](#)
[Psalm 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24](#)
[Reading II: Philippians 2:6-11](#)
[Gospel: Mark 14:1-15:47](#)

Questions on Sunday's readings for use by discussion groups, prayer groups, or for individual prayer.

Palm Sunday Processional

[Mark 11:1-10](#)

1. Does Jesus enter the Holy City to get power and to dominate? Did some of the people waving palms and shouting "Hosanna" expect a Messiah like that? Could some have recognized Jesus as someone who reawakened hopes, understood misery and healed their bodies and souls? Which group would you have been in?

First Reading

[Isaiah 50:4-7](#)

1. Name some people who have spoken on God's behalf and have "set their faces like flint" when confronted by injustice. Are you restrained about standing up for justice if it involves some discomfort for you? What injustice do you feel strongly about? What can you do to help make it right?
2. God opens your ears many times and in many ways. Give some reasons why God would come to you with messages "morning after morning." What communications have you received from God? Do you get them through what others say or do? In your thoughts? Your heart? Your ears? Your eyes?

Second Reading

[Philippians 2:6-11](#)

1. Describe the "emptying" in Jesus' life. Go from his birth to his death, as much as you are able. What is the power of emptiness?

2. What is the profound wisdom that lies behind the assertion, "... at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord."?

Gospel

[Mark 14:1-15:47](#)

1. The woman was "wasting" expensive perfumed oil on Jesus. Does this relate to God's self-wasting love on humankind? How is the Eucharist a continuation of Christ's self-giving love for us? Does your busy schedule allow time to "waste" on love?

2. After listening to the Palm Sunday Gospel account of how his disciples fell asleep before Jesus was betrayed by Judas, Pope Francis asked himself and the crowd gathered in St. Peter's Square these questions: "Has my life fallen asleep?" and "Am I like Pilate? When I see that the situation is difficult, do I wash my hands?" (Palm Sunday 4/13/2014) Are those hard questions? How do you answer them?

Anne Osdieck

The best collection of conversation questions: What food do you like to snack on? What is your favorite day of the year? What is your favorite smell... 100 Conversation Questions. Personal. What is something you've never done but would like to try to do? Here is a list I created of hundreds of ESL conversation / discussion questions that you can use in a conversation English class. I will update and expand the ESL conversation questions list on an ongoing basis. For a list of speech topics, please visit this page. Jump to a conversation question category English ESL Conversation Questions. How long have you been studying English? Should everyone learn English? Interesting questions are the "bomb" in every gathering. Because who doesn't enjoy a good conversation? But questions like "what do you do?" and "where do you live?" are so cliché, boring, and exhausting to answer. However, a "good" question can be the difference between a long and predictable night and a great, and fruitful meeting of the minds. So, if you want to be the most interesting person in the room, you've got to ask the most engaging questions that will result in captivating conversations.