

Review of Last Week (Easter) –

1. Jesus did not wait around for the ritual
2. Jesus did not in the walls of the honored place nor go to the sacred place (Galilee- Matt)
3. Jesus did not save the news for the most revered people

Looking for resurrection outside of traditional places, rituals and people (too often these are dead places that have gotten us to where we are)

Good News = out of suffering & death resurrection, but we must look in the right places.

Exegesis – John

- Jesus comes to Jerusalem for Passover and is staying with his friends' Mary, Martha and Lazarus (who he raised from the dead) – this is a key miracle that attracts people
- Right after Palm Sunday when everyone is loving Jesus – he knows it is short lived
- Jesus admits to God that he knows the end is near – but that he has to do his job
- Jesus says – even with all the things I have done, some folks still won't believe
- I have come not to judge you but to help save the world.

Job

- The people are blind to God, but the animals are clear. They get it.
- Job says this to his friends who are telling him to give up on God. Job says that he can't stop acknowledging God even in all of his pain.
- He evokes the animals as the example of those who understand God at their core
- Humans may not acknowledge God but the animals are clear

Key Points –

1. God's desire for the Earth is for it to reflect the perfection of peace, beauty, love and rest that God created in the beginning. Jesus came to lead us back towards that balance.
2. Nature never lost sight of balance and they lean into it. We have lost sight.
 - * Like animals, our children can often see God more clearly than us
 - * When asked what color he was feeling like today – Julian said – Clear!
 - * Selma/ Gertie– Giraffes are really tall and can see things farther away than us
3. When Jesus came to bring his message, we didn't listen and we actually participated in destroying him. Nature has been and continues to bring out the glory of God and we continue to ignore and destroy our natural siblings.

On Earth Day, we are called to get serious about God's balance – Consider Elliot's question about tigers - Every day we are taking away habitat and the numbers go down and down. Why doesn't God stop us from killing or hurting tigers?

Core Questions –

1. How are you listening to what nature has to tell us about God's glory?
2. In what way are you most participating in the destruction of the Creation?
3. How is God calling you to shift your relationship with the Earth?