

## 2023 Palm Sunday - Birthday!!!

We often look for signs that make us aware that something is about to happen. Signs in the weather that indicate rain or signs in nature that indicate a change in season. What signs do you look forward to the most?

What do they stir within you as you see them unfolding?

## Read: Matthew 21:1-11, Zechariah 9:9, Revelation 16:15, Matthew 24:42

The event described in Matthew 21 is called the Triumphal Entry was prophesied in Zechariah 9 500 years before the event occurred. In these days it was likely that many people understood the statement that was being made here. If some aspect regarding the prophecy of Jesus return was to take place before your eyes, would you recognize it?

Why should we be watching for the signs of Christ's return?

How do we balance our anticipation of the Second Coming with our present call to evangelism?

The natural inclination of man before the fall, was to live in love and adoration of the Father. The natural inclination of man after the fall is to embrace doubt and demand our own way.

How do you keep doubt at bay in a world so slanted to that perspective?

## Read: Mark 16:15-18, Matthew 28:16-20, Luke 24:46-49, John 20:30-31

Each Gospel account records the "Great Commission" a little bit differently. All of them are correct; they just include different details that fit with the themes of each book.

- -Matthew emphasizes Jesus' role as the King of His kingdom and also as a Teacher.
- -Mark focuses on the activity and power of Jesus.
- -Luke shows the Lord's concern for all people and demonstrates the need all people have for forgiveness.
  - -John provides evidence for the deity of Jesus and shows what "believing" really means.
- -Jameson Steward

Which version of the Great Commission do you relate to the most?

Why do the different emphases that the different authors included still matter today?

## Read: Luke 15:10, Romans 10:9-15, Matthew 23:37-39

God's greatest desire for the heart of humanity is that we might find salvation.

Of all the things that the angels oversee, a man turning from sin and to the Lord is the only thing we have a record of Heaven celebrating. Why is this such a big deal to God?

What is our role in that? On a scale of 1-10 how are we as a church at reaching people for Jesus? What could we do to improve by one point?

We need to have a heart for our city like Jesus had for His. How do we cultivate that kind of love for Lebanon, Conway, and Laclede County?

How can we pray for each other? Who can we pray for to help lead them to Jesus?