

Into all the world – Reflections for Lent 2021

Week 6 – 28th March (Palm Sunday)

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A not so every day journey

Every morning I get up, get dressed and get on my bike to cycle the 6.5 miles from my home in South London to Westminster where I work. It is part of my everyday life and while I cherish the 30 minutes of peace I think very little about entering the centre of the capital city. I sneak past grand buildings, built generations ago, where momentous things happened and don't think twice. I weave past tourists awestruck by the Houses of Parliament or Westminster Abbey, knowing the roads like the back of my hand and not being noticed by anyone as I pop into the bike shed and get on with my day.

Jesus must have entered Jerusalem many times before Palm Sunday, walking through the gates and past the city walls, he snuck under the radar, no one noticed him as he got on with his day or purpose for being there. There was no purpose to his journey only to his destination. On Palm Sunday, however, Jesus' journey had a purpose, it had meaning and it showed the world who he was. In that journey on that day Jesus showed Jerusalem that he was the King of Kings, the Messiah and the Son of God.

Jesus entered the city, not as I do every day on my bike with only my destination in mind, but as the Son of God showing everyone that he came in peace to revolutionise the world, thinking of the journey he will take to his death and resurrection.

Palm Sunday is a day of jubilation but also the start of the journey which would lead to Jesus's death and resurrection, it was a world changing journey. So, as we think about the short donkey ride Jesus made on Palm Sunday we should reflect on the journeys we make. How can we give our everyday journeys a purpose which is not just arriving at a destination?



To ponder: What can make you every day journey have a purpose? Could it be to use a more environmentally friendly form of transport, caring for God's creation? What Journeys have you taken which have had a purpose – a protest, a race, a walk of remembrance? How was that different to your commute?

Prayer: *Lord Jesus, thank you for making that journey into Jerusalem, knowing the suffering that faced you there. Help us to journey with purpose and to notice those along the way who need your love. Amen.*

Bible link: Mark 11: 1–11 and John 12: 12–16

Song: *Singing the Faith 265* Ride on, Ride on in Majesty