



Summer Blockbuster Reading Challenge

3 months—4 Gospels—Go!

SATURDAY, JULY 9, 2022



Take your Pulse

What do you pray for?

Are your prayers ever answered?

Today's Reading

Mark Chapter 11

Things are starting to get real now. We begin this chapter with Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, aka Palm Sunday. Jesus and his followers spend the day at the temple and then head out to Bethany for the night. Upon returning to the city, Jesus curses a fig tree because it did not have any fruit, which was out of season. It later then withers and dies. This is a symbolic action representing a "fruitless" Israel that is not ready for its' Lord. Upon returning to the temple, Jesus drives out the sellers and buyers and overturns the tables of the money changers. The chapter ends with Jesus' authority being questioned which he refuses to answer because they aren't really curious about his response. They are simply trying to find a way to get rid of him by any means possible.



Start the Thinking

Hosanna is a Hebrew word that means, "Save now!" What is the crowd wanting to be saved from? When you cry hosanna today, what is it that you are asking to be saved from?



Conversing with God

Dear Jesus,

We cry Hosanna because we find ourselves like fruitless Israel and have nothing to show with the gifts you have given us. Save us from ourselves and help us to bear fruit that will last Amen



Be blessed

May the God of surprises bring smiles and joys to the everyday and ordinary.
May the God of love be seen in all we do and say.
May the God of life who has brought us from death to life fill you with great joy.
Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. Amen