



Sermon Main Idea:

In this fearful time, we need to examine our fears and try to understand what we are really afraid of, so that we may be empowered to choose our response, instead of just reacting in fear.

Introduction:

1. What are some areas of your life that the illusion of control has been stripped away by the pandemic?
2. What fears have you sensed come to the surface in the last weeks?

SORP:

Scripture | read John 12:1-19 and relate last week's daily bible readings

Observation | what do we notice? what stands out?

1. What strikes you about the contrast between Mary's heart and Judas's objection?
2. What do you think Jesus meant by his words in verse 8? How do you think the disciples may have understood (or misunderstood) him?
3. From the addition of killing Lazarus to the plot of the chief priests' (verses 9-11), what motivations and fears are highlighted in the chief priests?
4. Discuss the significance of Jesus's triumphal entry, considering prophecies and symbolism. Why was this an important part of his journey to the cross?
5. How did Jesus's triumphal entry impact the Pharisees?

Response | how can we respond in our lives to what we learn?

1. As you think about different fears that have recently surfaced, discuss what fears might be under the surface fears.
2. How has that fear impacted your actions and reactions?
3. How can the understanding of your fears and the natural reactions help you to choose to respond in love instead?
4. In what area of your life do you need to concentrate an empowered response of love?
5. How might God be calling you to respond to His Word today?

Prayer | ask God to help you live out your response

Last Week's Daily Bible Readings

Monday, 3/30 – John 11:45-57 MSG

Tuesday, 3/31 – John 11:45-48

Wednesday, 4/1 – John 11:49-50

Thursday, 4/2 – John 11:51-54

Friday, 4/3 – John 11:55-57

Saturday, 4/4 – John 12:1-19 NLT