

Sermon Questions: DTR (Palm Sunday)

Matthew 21:1-17

1. DTR stands for “Define the Relationship” and is used to describe the process of clarifying the boundaries, expectations, and agreements of any relationship between two people or two parties. Share a time when you had a DTR Conversation with someone. What issues did you need to clarify in the relationship?
2. In what ways are DTR Conversations difficult? In what ways are they helpful?
3. How can a written “Covenant” be helpful in some relationships between parties or persons?
4. In what way is the Bible a record of Covenants between God and people?
5. Ancient Covenants were often “blood covenants,” where people would seal the relational agreements in their own blood. What does the blood symbolize in a covenant?
6. When Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey, in what way was he declaring himself to be the promised King of a new Covenant?
7. How does the sacrament of Holy Communion remind us that we are participants in a new covenant with God?
8. Pastor Mark points out that the new covenant is not focused on keeping rules to please God, but rather it is focused on responding to God’s love with our own loving devotion. In what ways do you demonstrate loving devotion toward God?
9. Pastor Mark describes “The Peppa Effect,” where American children begin speaking with British accents because they spend many hours watching the British television show, “Peppa Pig.” Pastor Mark argues that we take on the characteristics of the things we love. In what way does your love for God impact your character?

10. Our greatest danger is not that we will fail, but that we will succeed in what doesn't really matter. What are you doing to make sure that you are focused on things that matter?

11. Pastor Mark talks about how Dr. Seuss wrote "Green Eggs and Ham" based on a bet that he could write a children's book using only 50 different words. In what ways are you allowing God to use your limited resources and abilities to make a difference in the lives of others?