

- *Palm Sunday*; Jesus arriving in Jerusalem, having just raised Lazarus, knocking on death's door (his own at the end of the week), but with the intent to evict death from his illegal rule over human's destinies...

Chat with the Children: Going on a Journey

- Volunteers to go on a journey with me:
 - as they come up, give each a piece of equipment to wear or hold;
 - why might this piece of equipment be needed?

Equipment

- Cooking: Oven gloves; apron
- Gardening: gloves
- Cycling gear: helmet, goggles, trousers, trouser clips, fluorescent jacket, gloves
- Sometimes we want to do things that can be risky, or a little dangerous:
 - maybe some of the grown ups have risky things to do as part of their jobs? (Jim: roofer; Joe: fireman;?)
- If we do have something dangerous to do, we tend to protect ourselves!
 - all the bits of equipment...!

What is today?

- Palm Sunday
- Time when Jesus did something risky, with very little to protect him.
- *Hint at the story, with emphasis on risks Jesus was taking coming up to Jerusalem.*
 - Jesus "protection" was that God was with him: "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"

Context

- Next day after what?
- What's the whole Lazarus thing?
 - in other words exploring the immediate expectations and perspectives of the disciples, crowd and Pharisees
 - *Better that one man die, John 11:50*
 - Then do a general excursus on the wider expectations of Messiah, and how the whole palm branch and donkey thing was working... OT Scriptures being alluded to...

Connection

- Spreading the word - talking about what was happening, about the impact Jesus' was making on people's lives
 - abstract/concrete? I think I've found... I saw... I heard about...
- We all connect with the fear of death....

Consequences

- Later understanding
 - preparation for the implications of Jesus' death and resurrection later in the week
 - rejection too - decision point
- Evicting death from its illegal rule over huamn destiny