

These questions are for the March 29, 2026, message, “The Glory Returns.” Please read the sermon passage (Ezekiel 43:1-5; John 12:12-16) out loud.

### **Passage Outline**

1. The promise of God’s glory (Ezekiel 43:1-5).
  - a. What is God’s glory?
    - i. A manifestation of His real presence, character, power and worthiness.
    - ii. God has shown us His glory in creation (Psalm 19:1), especially, in Jesus.
  - b. Why did His glory depart? Because of idolatry and disobedience in His people (Ez. 10).
2. Beholding God’s glory (John 12:12; 1:14).
  - a. The process. God has shown His glory in His personal presence:
    - i. At the Temple / holy of holies.
    - ii. At the arrival of Jesus (John 1:14).
    - iii. When he returns to reign in the new heavens and new earth (Ez. 43:1-5).
  - b. The Person. Christ Jesus is God, He is the ultimate Prophet, Priest and King.
3. Palm Sunday responses (John 12:13-16).
  - a. External: palm branches (victory), public parades and songs.
  - b. Internal: no fear (12:15) and whole-hearted surrender (Ezekiel 43:3).

### **Life Group Discussion Questions**

1. Based on #1, above: When God’s glory left and seemed very distant for a season, Ezekiel reviewed the certainty of God’s promises. This reminder brings us hope and feeds our trust in God. In what ways does God seem distant to you? What promises about His future faithfulness encourage your heart most? How can we help you as you wait?
2. Based on #1, above: Jesus Himself is the ultimate manifestation of God’s glory. He literally reveals God the Father in word and deed. Some people see Jesus and “see God’s glory,” while others see Jesus and try to explain Him away. What is your role in helping others see the glory of God in Jesus Christ?
3. Based on #2, above: Jesus orchestrated everything (the route, the donkey (see 1 Kings 1:38-40) and the timing) to make it obvious that He Himself was the arrival of God’s glory in Jerusalem. In Him, right then, “the glory of God returned.” It’s one thing to know this, but it’s another to “behold” God’s glory in Jesus. In what ways have you beheld the glory of God in Christ Jesus?
4. Based on #3, above: The external signs of worship are easier, but no less necessary. When we see God’s glory in Jesus, we join with the crowd (the local church) in praising and obeying Jesus. Where does this come easiest for you? Where is it hardest?
5. Based on #3, above: The internal signs are necessary, and included “no fear” (John 12:15) and “face down” humility before God (Ez 43:3). God continues to transform how and what we think (John 12:16). How do you see internal progress in your sanctification?