

Jesus is King - Palm Sunday

Bible Passage: Matthew 21:1–11; Mark 11:1–11; Luke 19:28–38; John 12:12–19

Memory Verse of the Week: “For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.”

John 3:16

Storytelling Video

Click [HERE](#) to have your children watch this week's video about Palm Sunday.

Discussion & Activities

Review the story with your children. Use the image below to review the story in creative and unique ways that you know your child will enjoy.



Story Overview:

Jesus and his disciples were on their way to Jerusalem to celebrate Passover. It was just a few days before Jesus would die for our sins. Jesus knew all the people would be there waiting for him. Before he entered the city with his disciples, he told them to get a colt (which is a young donkey) so he could ride into town on the colt. The disciples did as he asked and then they put their coats on the colt for Jesus to ride on. When Jesus rode into the city, the people were so happy to see him! They knew all about him and wanted him to be their king. They waved palm branches, spread their coats on the ground in front of Jesus, and shouted praises. "Hosanna! Hosanna!" The people thought Jesus had come to save them from the Romans, who treated them badly. But even better, Jesus had actually come to save them from their sins because Jesus is King!

Story Review Questions:

Use a Bible to search the scriptures and find the answers to these questions.

Encourage your reading-age children to practice using their own Bibles!

1. **Read Mark 11:2. What did Jesus tell the disciples to go and get for Him?** (A colt, a young donkey)
2. **Read Mark 11:7. What did the disciples put on the colt?** (Their coats)
3. **Read Mark 11:9-10. What did the people shout when Jesus rode into Jerusalem?**
4. **Read Zechariah 9:9 and then Matthew 21:4–5. In the Old Testament prophecy in Zechariah about Jesus, what did the prophet call Jesus? How did the prophet say he would enter into Jerusalem?** (A King; on a donkey)

Discussion Questions:

Ask the questions that fit your children's ages and developmental levels.

1. **What was your favorite part of this story?**
2. **Why did Jesus ride on a donkey?** Matthew 21:4–5, to show peace and fulfill the prophecy in Zechariah 9:9
3. **What kind of king did the people expect Jesus to be? What did they want him to do?**
4. **What kind of King is Jesus?**
5. **Why would we want Jesus to be King of our lives?**
6. **How can we show Jesus that He is our King?**

Prayer of Blessing

Bless each child individually by going around and gently placing your hand on their head or shoulder saying:

(Child's name), may you trust Jesus to be King in your life. May you know that you can call out to Him and He will save you. May you know that Jesus, the King of heaven and earth loves you and cares for you.

Take this time to pray with and for you children. Allow them to share prayer requests, pray for each other, and pray their and others specific prayer requests.

Craft: Palm Branch Praises

SUPPLIES

Palm branch from story, coloring and writing materials

CREATE

As we've been talking about today, when Jesus rode into town on the donkey the people laid their coats in the roads and waved palm branches to celebrate and praise Him. We're going to get a chance to praise God too by writing down why we want to praise Him on our palm branches.

Why do we praise God? Encourage answers; interact with responses.

Some reasons are that He loves us, He cares for us, He sent Jesus to die for us, He made us, He is our King. There are so many reasons why God is worthy of our praise. You can decorate your palm branch by writing or drawing the reasons we love and praise God all over it! Assist your children as needed. Once they've finished, have them share their praises. You can wave your palm branches after each person shares a praise.

Activity: Pin the Tail on the Donkey

SUPPLIES

Blindfold, tape, picture of a donkey (drawn or printed out), "tails" (a piece of yarn or strip of construction paper)

PLAY

One at a time, blindfold each child and hand them a piece of yarn with a piece of tape stuck to one end. Spin them around a few times, then have them try to "pin" the "tail" on the donkey. Optional Variation: Cut out a stick figure Jesus and pin Jesus on the back of the donkey as though He is riding the donkey into Jerusalem.