

Today's Suggested Schedule—March 2026, Week 5

Bible Story: Palm Sunday/Jesus Washes His Disciples' Feet • *John 12:9-16, 13:1-17*

Bottom Line: Jesus showed us how to be humble.

Monthly Memory Verse: *Don't do anything only to get ahead. Don't do it because you are proud. Instead, be humble. Value others more than yourselves.* • Philippians 2:3 NIV

Supplies NOT Included in the Activity Bags

Bible Story Review: Build the Story

- Bible
- LEGOs® or other building blocks

Application Activity: Cheer for Jesus

Memory Verse Activity: Hopscotch Memory Verse

- Floor tape
- Create a hopscotch grid on the floor with tape that has 10 spaces.
- Tape one card with a phrase from the Memory Verse in each square so the verse is said in order as a kid hops through the grid.

Prayer Activity: Pray and Dismiss

- Sticky notes
- Coloring supplies
- Wall tape

Bible Story Summary

Palm Sunday/ Jesus Washes His Disciples' Feet

We wrap up the month as Jesus approaches Jerusalem during Passover week. Days after entering Jerusalem on a donkey, to the cheers of a multitude, Jesus celebrates the Passover meal with His closest friends. Instead of demanding that He be served, Jesus takes on the role of the lowliest servant by washing His disciples' feet ... even those of Judas, His betrayer. [BOTTOM LINE] Jesus showed us how to be humble.

1. Bible Story Review- Build the Story

What You Need:

- Bible
- LEGOs® or other building blocks

What You Do:

- Read John 12:12-15 and John 13:3-5 out loud to the group.
- Share that another of the writers of another gospel tells us that the people laid their coats and branches from the trees on the road that Jesus traveled down! That was something you did for someone so important! The people were so excited that Jesus was coming!
- Divide your group into four groups.
- Give each team a specific part of the Palm Sunday story to build with their LEGOs®.
 - Team 1: Build the donkey Jesus rode.
 - Team 2: Build the road with coats and branches on it.
 - Team 3: Build the crowd of people who were celebrating and waving palm branches.
 - Team 4: Build Jesus washing the disciples' feet.
- Give them several minutes to build their part of the story.
- When they are done, bring all the creations together and use them to retell the story of Jesus entering Jerusalem like a king and Jesus serving others by washing feet.

What You Say:

“Look at this! You built the whole story! Jesus rode a donkey into Jerusalem, and the people celebrated Jesus like a king. They made a special path with coats and branches and waved palm branches in the air as they shouted ‘Hosanna.’ ‘Hosanna’ means, ‘save us, we pray.’

“But Jesus showed them that He is an ‘upside down’ kind of King. A few days later, Jesus did the job of a servant and washed His friends’ feet. Jesus, the true King of heaven and earth, chose to take on this humble job of washing feet. Jesus even washed the feet of Judas Iscariot, whom He knew was about to betray Him to the religious leaders! Jesus did that to teach us all an important lesson. Jesus showed us how to treat others and put others first. **[Bottom Line] Jesus showed us how to be humble.**”

EveryChild Pro-Tips:

- *Use larger blocks, like DUPLO®, for kids who need more support with fine motor skills.*
- *Partner kids so that each team has a strong builder who can help bring the team’s ideas to life.*

2. Application Activity- Cheer for Jesus

What You Need:

- No supplies needed

What You Do:

- Remind the kids how the crowd on Palm Sunday shouted “Hosanna!” to celebrate Jesus. “Hosanna!” means “save us, we pray!”
- Tell the kids that you are going to create your own cheer for Jesus.
- Brainstorm some simple words for your cheer together. (e.g., “J-E-S-U-S, He’s the very best!” or “Hosanna in the highest! Jesus is our King!”)
- Create some simple motions to go with your cheer—like clapping, stomping, or raising your hands.
- Practice your cheer together a few times, getting louder and more excited each time.
- Divide into two groups and have a “cheer-off.”

What You Say:

“That was an awesome cheer! It’s great to celebrate Jesus. But Jesus taught us that cheering for Him with our mouths isn’t enough. He also wants us to ‘cheer’ for Him with our actions. **[Bottom Line]** **Jesus showed us how to be humble.**”

“Now, showing humility like Jesus is tough, because the world tells us we’re supposed to get ahead and be important. We need the help of the Holy Spirit inside us to set aside what we want in order to serve others like Jesus. But when we ask Jesus to give us the ability to be humble, He will do it! When we choose to be humble and put others first, we are showing the world how amazing Jesus is.”

3. Memory Verse Activity- Hopscotch Memory Verse

What You Need:

- Bibles
- Prepared hopscotch grid with the pages from “Hopscotch Memory Verse” Activity Page taped inside

What You Do:

- Give every kid a Bible and direct them to look up Philippians 2:3.
- Demonstrate how to look up the verse using the Bible Navigation Tips below:

***Finding verses for 2-3rd graders:** Guide them to open their Bibles to the front and find the table of contents. (Hold up a Bible opened to the table of contents to show the kids what the page looks like.) When the kids find the table of contents, lead them to find the name of the book in the list. When they find the book, lead them to look at the page number beside it. Explain that the number tells them on what page they can find that book. Help the kids find the page. When they find the book, explain that the big numbers on the page are the chapter numbers. Help them find the correct chapter. Then explain that the small numbers are verse numbers. Help them find the correct verse in that chapter.*

- Repeat the verse aloud several times.
- Review any words that might be unfamiliar to the kids.
- Guide the kids to put their Bibles aside.
- Point out the hopscotch grid that is on the floor.
- Let the kids take turns hopping through the hopscotch grid. As they hop on each square, they should say the part of the Memory Verse that is in that square.
- Encourage the rest of the group to say the verse along with the kid hopping.

What You Say:

“Great hopping! You are all becoming experts on this verse about humility. Humility can feel like an ‘upside-down’ idea, but it’s exactly what Jesus modeled for us. When Jesus washed His friends’ feet, He was showing us how to serve others and put others first. Jesus is the King of kings. Jesus is the King of heaven and earth, and yet He did the job of a servant. He washed His friends’ dirty feet to show us to value others more than ourselves. **[Bottom Line] Jesus showed us how to be humble.**”

4. Pray and Dismiss

What You Need:

- “Put It at His Feet” Activity Page that is taped to the wall at a kid’s height
- Sticky notes
- Coloring supplies

What To Do:

- Give each kid a sticky note and a marker.
- Ask them to think of one person they want to “put first” this week by serving them. It could be a parent, a sibling, or a friend.
- Instruct the kids to draw a picture of that person on their sticky note.
- Invite them one by one to come and stick their note on the wall at Jesus’ feet.

What You Say:

“This is a beautiful picture. We are giving our plans to Jesus and asking Him to help us serve the people in our lives. When we serve others, we’re doing just what Jesus did—we’re putting others first. Don’t forget, we have the Holy Spirit to help us. It might be difficult at times or feel ‘upside down,’ but we don’t have to do it alone. Let’s pray and ask Jesus to help us put others first and love like Him.

“Dear Jesus, thank You for being our King. Thank You for showing us that being a leader means serving others. Help us to be humble this week. Help us put the people we drew on our notes first. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”