



April 13

I am Set Apart
Kindergarten - 5th grade

Leader Notes

Bible Passage: Jesus entered Jerusalem- Matt 21:1-17; Mark 11:1-19; Luke 19:28-40; John 2:13-24;12:12-19

Bottom Line: I can celebrate the truth.

Leader Context: On Palm Sunday, we celebrate when Jesus rode into Jerusalem the week He was going to die. When He arrived, people celebrated. (Read Mark 11:8-10.) We get to teach kids that, when they know the truth about who Jesus is and why He came, they can step up and celebrate in a way that puts their joy on display.

THE WIN FOR SUNDAY GROUPS: Give kids a first look at The Bible, Jesus, and our need for a Savior by embracing their physical needs or engaging their interests. Use The Code when necessary to help redirect kids and build relationships.

Social

Games and Music (10 minutes)

What You Need: Instruction Page, Game Sets, Roku Game Instruction Page, photo booth backdrop and props

What You Do:

- Play worship songs and other songs available on Roku during the Social Game or while kids are playing.
- Using the supplies and game instruction page, choose one game to play with the kids today.
- As you are playing, use this as a time to call each kid by name and learn their names well.

Say: That was a fun game to get us ready to watch our Bible video. Let's sit and listen to our story today."

Bible Story Video (10 minutes)

Bible Story Recap- Say This

How exciting would it be to see Jesus coming into your city? Maybe you would cut off tree branches, wave them in the air, and celebrate! Wave your arm in the air like it's a palm branch. *(Allow time.)* Great job!

People today celebrate many things—birthdays, holidays, anniversaries—but Jesus gives us the best reason of all to celebrate! When Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey, the people celebrated. They believed Jesus was the Savior God promised to send, and He was. Jesus came to be the Savior or Rescuer of people to believe and trust in Him. Jesus came to rescue *you* too. Point to yourself, and say, "Who, me?" *(Who, me?)* Yes, you! Jesus came to make a way for you to have a friendship with God. That is something worth celebrating! Say, "I can celebrate the truth!" *(I can celebrate the truth!)*

When you respond to Jesus by believing the truth that He is the Son of God and trusting in Him, He rescues you. When you belong to Jesus, that means He sets you apart to live for Him and point other people to Him too. Say, "I am set apart!" *(I am set apart!)*

When we step up and celebrate the truth, we are enjoying one of the best parts of God's perfect creation and design.

Videos

Gospel Connection-

(Circle three) God sent Jesus to rescue us and make the way for us to have a relationship with God.

(Circle one) When we have a relationship with God, we get to enjoy the life and relationship God created us to have. From the very beginning, God created people to know, love, and follow Him. When He created the world and people, He knew it was very good! God had a perfect relationship with the people He created.

(Circle two) Then, those people sinned. *Sin* is choosing to do what we think is best rather than following what God says is best. After those people sinned, *all* people have sinned. Even though God created everything right and true, we all struggle with following God's way and choose to do our own thing instead. This results in brokenness in what we think, believe, and how we act. More than that, our brokenness breaks our relationship with God. No matter how hard we try to fix that brokenness and have a relationship with God, we can't do it on our own.

(Circle three) But God is still good, and He still loves broken people who sin—like us! God promised that He would send a perfect Savior to rescue people from sin. This is why Jesus, God's Son, came and why people celebrated Him in our Bible story! Jesus is the true King and the promised Savior. By living a perfect life and dying on a cross, Jesus took the punishment for sin—the punishment we all deserve. Jesus was buried in a tomb, but three days later, God raised Him from the dead! Jesus defeated sin and death! That is worth celebrating! Say, "Oh, yeah!" *(Oh, yeah!)*

(Circle four) But wait, there's more! For us to have a friendship with God, it is not enough that we learn about the true things Jesus did. We need to respond. Everyone, say, "Respond!" *(Respond!)* The way we respond to this good news is by admitting our sin to Jesus and asking for forgiveness. We believe that He's the Promised Savior and choose to follow Him rather than do our own thing. God will give us life with Him—both now and forever. God loved us so much that He sent His Son, Jesus, to die for our sins.

We can love and follow Jesus, who came back to life! Say, "I can celebrate the truth!" *(I can celebrate the truth!)* As we celebrate, we can tell others the truth about who Jesus is and what He did for us so that they can believe it and celebrate it with us! If you have questions about trusting and following Jesus, talk with me or your Campus Leaders. Following Jesus is something we would love to celebrate with you!

Today we have learned the truth that when we love and follow God, we are set apart! When we respond to the truth of God's Word by believing in Jesus and living our lives for Him, God says we are set apart. That means we are part of God's family and can celebrate who God is and who He made us to be. Say, "I am set apart!" *(I am set apart!)* We can celebrate the truth of God's amazing love forever! Say, **"I can celebrate the truth!" (I can celebrate the truth!)** Let's pray and thank God for saving us.

God, thank You for sending Your perfect Son, Jesus, to take the punishment for imperfect people, including us. You are so good, and we can never thank You enough! Thank You for setting us apart to know You and believe Your gift of salvation. Help us to celebrate truth and celebrate You by following You and living our lives for You. Amen.

Step Up and Celebrate (20 minutes)

Big Goal: Know that we can celebrate the truth no matter where we are or who we are with.

Leader Prep: Set out supplies. Create an example.

1. Print Palm Branch cut out (1 per kid- cut it out)
2. Decorate the branch with images of places and people in your life.
3. Decorate the cross with water based markers. Spray with water and allow to dry.
4. Glue the heart on the cross. When dry glue the cross to the palm leaf.
5. Write *I am set apart* and *I can celebrate the truth* on the picture.

Supplies: Palm Branch Cut Out (1 per kid- cutout) Watercolor Paper Crosses (1 per kid), water based markers, squirt bottles, water, foam plates (1 per kid- place the plate under the cross as they decorate them), paper towels, paper heart cutout (1 per kid), glue sticks

What To Do: In our Bible story, people celebrated the truth that Jesus is the Savior and King of everything. He came to offer hope, salvation, and a forever life with God. We can celebrate the truth about Jesus—that He is God’s Promised Savior—no matter where we are, who we are with, or what we are doing. So, let’s make something to help us remember that truth!

First, decorate your cross with water based markers. When done spray with water.

Now, decorate your palm branch with images of places you spend time at and people in your life. *(Allow time. Provide suggestions and assistance as needed.)*

Your palm branch is a great reminder that you can step up and celebrate the truth everywhere you go and with the people in your life! Now, glue the heart to your cross paper. Glue the cross to your palm branch. Be careful not to cover up your drawings. *(Allow time.)*

Finally, write the amazing truth we learned today. Write *I am set apart* and *I can celebrate the truth*.

Loud And Clear: Celebrating the truth is something other people notice! When we step up and celebrate the truth, we show people in our lives that we are set apart and want to live for God! No matter where we go, we can step up and celebrate the truth about Jesus!

Discussion Questions:

- What is something you really like or get really excited about that you could share with the whole world? *(Allow kids to answer, and share your own answer. Share that when we are passionate about something, we celebrate it and share it with others. We can do that with the truth about God.)*
- The Bible tells us that when we love and follow God, we are set apart! We can celebrate the truth by following God and pointing others to Him. Let's open our Bibles to **Mark 11:8-10** and read about it together. *(Invite kids to open their Bibles. Read the passage aloud, or invite a kid who volunteers to read the passage aloud. Be sure to have Bibles available for kids who need one. Help kids find the passage so everyone can follow along together.)* People celebrated Jesus as He rode into Jerusalem. How can celebrating the truth of Jesus make a difference in our lives and in the lives of people around us? *(People know what we believe. We can feel encouraged by the truth. When we celebrate the truth, it encourages others who celebrate the truth too.)*
- Everyone experiences brokenness because of sin. But we can celebrate the truth that God loves us so much that He sent Jesus to rescue us from sin and brokenness. How can this truth be encouraging to people in our lives? *(It is good news worth celebrating. This gives hope and joy that we don't have to live stuck in our brokenness.)*
- People celebrate many different things like birthdays and holidays. What's different about celebrating Jesus? *(We celebrate having a relationship with God now and forever!)* So, how might that encourage us to tell other people about what we celebrate? *(Allow the kids to answer, and share your own answer.)*
- The Bible tells us that we are set apart when we follow Jesus, so we can love, follow, and live our lives for Him. We can know God and know God loves us, so we can celebrate the truth! What is something encouraging you will remember from today? Is there anything you have questions about? *(Allow kids to answer, and share your own answer.)* Let's pray and talk to God. *(Lead the group in prayer. Consider using the following prayer prompt.)*

God, thank You for giving us a reason to celebrate! We could not save ourselves, but You saved us. Help us love You and follow Your commands. Help us celebrate You so everyone around us knows we love and follow You! We love You. Amen.

We are set apart, and when we celebrate and follow the truth, we show other people that we love and follow God. Jesus came so we could have a relationship with God, and that's a truth worth celebrating! When we step up and celebrate the truth, we are set apart in a way that other people notice!

Going Home

Pass out the coloring pages for kids to take home. Greet families as they arrive and tell them something about their child you saw today. Say goodbye and call everyone by name.