

A Crowd Welcomes Jesus

Matthew 21:1-11

Bible Memory Verse: "You are the Son of God." ~Matthew 16:16

Supplies for this week's lesson:

Crayons, scissors

For the next two weeks we're going to be talking about things that happened during the week of Easter, when Jesus died and rose again. Some things that happened were sad and some things that happened were happy. Everything that happened, though, was part of God's plan so that His children (that's us!) could live with Him forever in Heaven.

Today we're going to learn about a time when Jesus arrived in Jerusalem, an important city in Israel. In the big church, this day is called Palm Sunday. Our congregation will be talking about Palm Sunday next Sunday, but we're going to get a sneak peek about what it's all about today. In Jerusalem, the people welcomed Jesus by laying branches and coats on the ground in front of Him. People around the world welcome others in different ways. Let's pretend to be welcoming someone in the different ways described below:

In NJ – wave to say "Hi"

When welcoming the Queen in Britain – bow/curtsey and say

"Welcome your Majesty"

In Japan – place your hands on your thighs and bow

In China – say "Ni Hao" (pronounced nee how)

In Hawaii – say "Aloha"

In Vietnam – shake hands and say "Xin chao" (pronounced seen chow)

In France – place a kiss on both cheeks and say "Bonjour"

What's your favorite way to greet someone?

Today we'll learn that the crowds in Jerusalem also praised Jesus. **We can praise Jesus** too. To praise Jesus means we give thanks to Him and tell Him how wonderful He is. Click on the video link at the LCKids web page to see a video of Miss Sue and Woolly talk about what happened on Palm Sunday, when the people placed palm branches in the road to welcome Jesus and sang songs of praise. You can also print a copy of this true story from the link called *PS-K Bible Story*.

The people in Jerusalem praised Jesus by saying "hosana" and "praise God" and placing coats and branches on the ground. To praise Jesus means we give thanks to Him and tell Him how wonderful He is. **We can praise Jesus**, too. Let's make some palm branches and learn a song so we can praise Jesus. Print the Palm Branch Activity page from the end of the lesson. Color in the palm branch (green is a good color) and then cut it out along the dotted lines. (if you have a stick of some kind, you can tape it onto the back of the palm branch or just wave your palm branch as is) Wave your palm branch as you sing these words (to the tune of Mary Had a Little Lamb):

Jesus came to Jerusalem, Jerusalem, Jerusalem
Jesus came to Jerusalem riding on a donkey.

Children came and honored Him, honored Him, honored Him.
Children came and honored Him, Hosana Son of David.

I can honor Jesus too, Jesus too, Jesus too
I can honor Jesus too, Hosana Son of David.

Great job! Let's end our lesson today with a prayer of thanks for Jesus.

Prayer:

Dear God, thank You for Your Son, Jesus. Help me to be like the people of Jerusalem who recognized Jesus as Your Son and gave Him praise and honor. We love you, Jesus! Amen.

You can find this week's *Heart Tugs* at the LCKids web page. At the end of this lesson plan, there's also a scripture poster for you to color.

Palm Branch Activity



Art by Kathryn Marlin

Palm Branch

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Triumphal Entry Lesson

People welcome Jesus to Jerusalem.

Matthew 21:1-11; Mark 11:1-11; Luke 19:28-44



“You
are the
Son of
God.”

based on Matthew 16:16, ICB

Special Unit Bible Memory Poster, ICB

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Special Unit