

Sunday School Lesson

April 5, 2020

3rd grade through high school

Matthew 21: 1-11

Palm Sunday



Materials needed:

Bible or Spark Story Bible

Crayons, markers, or colored pencils

Green construction paper

Popsicle stick or brown construction paper

Child scissor

Glue

Journal

Small rocks, tempera paint, paint brush if you wish to paint your rocks collected for last week's lesson

1. Today we remember when Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey and the people waved palm branches as they cheered for him. This is why we call this Sunday, Palm Sunday. You can review how palm trees are different from the trees that grow in our neighborhoods.
2. Read the story to your child or with your child of the story of Palm Sunday found in Matthew 21: 1-11 and on page 454 of the Spark Story Bible.
3. Talk with your child about the words the people cheered, "Hosanna! Hosanna! Here comes God's King! Hosanna! Praise God! Discuss how the word Hosanna is the shout of praise for Jesus.
4. Reinforce with your child how Jesus was a very different king - a king of peace. Review how some of the religious leaders of the time did not understand a king of peace and felt threatened by Jesus. Tell how they made plans to end Jesus' life. Palm Sunday is the beginning of Holy Week and the events that led to Jesus' death. BUT remind the children that next Sunday, Easter, is coming when we celebrate the fact that Jesus rose from the dead!
5. Craft to support the story: a. You or your child trace your child's hands on green construction paper and cut them out b. write Hosanna on a popsicle stick leaving space at one end to glue the handprints onto the stick. If you do not have a popsicle stick make a stem out of brown construction paper. c. Glue one handprint onto the stick. d. Glue the other handprint off center on top of the first handprint to make it look like a palm branch. e. When the glue has dried wave your palm branch and shout Hosanna!! Here Comes God's King!!

The garden rocks that you found for last week's lesson can be painted with Easter symbols: cross, flowers, sunshine, lamb, dove, Easter eggs, rainbow, hearts, bunnies, butterflies, your ideas 😊

6. Create a journal entry for this story. Title it April 5, 2020 Palm Sunday. Draw or write your ideas for this story. Some questions to ponder: The week following Palm Sunday was a sad one for Jesus' followers and for Jesus at times, too. As we remember the events of this week it can cause us sadness as well. Is there a right or wrong way to respond to sadness? Have you had moments while your school and church have been closed that made you feel sad? What people has God given you to help you when you feel sad? Does your knowledge of Jesus' love for you help lessen your sadness? Do you help any one when they feel sad? How has God made you a source of kindness and compassion for someone?
7. Sing together page 344 in the red hymnal "All Glory, Laud and Honor." Do you remember we sang this together before we were quarantined? Do you remember that laud means praise? This is a song we sing every Palm Sunday!! I miss you so much as I am typing these words!! Always remember that God loves you and I do, too!

Here are the words to the refrain:

"All glory, laud and honor to you redeemer, King,
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!"

8. Close with a prayer:

Dear God, Today we sing Hosanna for Jesus just as people did a long time ago. Thank you for sending Jesus to tell of your

great love for us. We ask for your blessing on our families and our world today, Lord. Please help us feel your comfort and peace. Amen!

God Bless Us and Keep Us Now and Evermore!! Amen!!