

Jesus' Triumphal Entry- Mark 11:1-11

THE POINT

Focus:

- Jesus is worthy of our praise
- Jesus is the ruler of the Kingdom of God

Application:

- We praise Jesus as our King
- We trust that Jesus is the Son of God

HEART CONNECTION (5-7 MINUTES)

MATERIALS:

- none

Content:

When your family has special company, what are some things you do to get ready?

(clean, cook special food, set the table, dress nicely)

When the special person arrives, what you do you to celebrate and make them feel welcome?

(run to greet them, share a nice meal, etc.)

In our story today, the people of Israel recognize that Jesus was the king that they had been waiting for, and celebrate him. They worship him right in the middle of the streets! Next week, our church will celebrate this special day all together. Today, we're going to read the true account from the Bible.

STORY CONNECTION (9-12 MINUTES)

PreK and K:

MATERIALS:

- Felt cut-out of coats (1 per person)
- Felt cut-outs of palm branches (at least 1 per person)
- Background felt (brown or tan)
- "road" felt strip (contrasting brown, tan, black, etc.)

Content: For a younger class, pass around a basket with felt coats and branches so they can participate actively when you get to the "Hosanna" portion of the lesson. Using physical objects will help their understanding of what happened, and keep the class focused.

As you begin the story, place the background cloth and road in the middle of the circle of children.

1st & 2nd GRADE:

MATERIALS:

- Blank coat print-out
- Crayons or other coloring supplies
- Palm leaves (either paper cut outs or actual leaves)

Content: Before the story, have the children spend a few minutes coloring their own coat. When you get to the point in the story when the people lay their coats on the ground, have them clear a path in the middle and place their coats out on the ground.

During the wondering section following the text, include the statement about wondering what it would be like to give up your own coat to lay on the path for King Jesus.

Have the children sit in a circle for the story This helps include children who might feel shy, and it helps each child feel equally engaged. It reassures children that they are seen and welcome in the community.

Background: The word “Hosanna” can either mean “Save us!” or “The Savior!”. One asks for salvation, and one proclaims that salvation has come. While there is some debate about how it is used here, both views recognize that salvation is coming through Christ.

Mark 11:1-11

As they all approached Jerusalem, they came to Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives. Jesus sent out two of his disciples. 2 He said to them, “Go to the village ahead of you. Just as you enter it, you will find a donkey’s colt tied there. No one has ever ridden it. Untie it and bring it here. 3 Someone may ask you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ If so, say, ‘The Lord needs it. But he will send it back here soon.’ ”

4 So they left. They found a colt out in the street. It was tied at a doorway. They untied it. 5 Some people standing there asked, “What are you doing? Why are you untying that colt?” 6 They answered as Jesus had told them to. So the people let them go. 7 They brought the colt to Jesus. They threw their coats over it. Then he sat on it. 8 Many people spread their coats on the road. Others spread branches they had cut in the fields.

PreK/K: *Have the children take turns placing their felt coats and branches on the felt road. Give them a moment to arrange them if they would like- it’s appropriate to take care to present things nicely for Jesus!*

1st/2nd: *Invite children to place their colored coats on the ground, making a way for Jesus down the middle of the classroom. Either use palm branch cut-outs or pretend to pull down branches from a tree to spread on the ground.*

9 Those in front and those in back shouted, *(encourage the children to shout with you!)*

“Hosanna!”

“Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!” (Psalm 118:25,26)

10 “Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David!”

“Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

11 Jesus entered Jerusalem and went into the temple courtyard. He looked around at everything. But it was already late. So he went out to Bethany with the 12 disciples.

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WONDER CONNECTION (4-6 MINUTES)

MATERIALS: None.

I wonder what it sounded like on the road that day when Jesus was coming.

I wonder how it felt to spread coats and branches out in preparation.

I wonder what Jesus thought about as he heard the people shout, "Hosanna!"

What do you wonder?

SPIRIT CONNECTION (7-10 MINUTES)

MATERIALS: Coloring supplies: paper, crayons, pencils, hard drawing surfaces (floor, clipboard, or a table).

Take a few minutes to talk quietly with the Lord while you draw, write, or just think inside your heard. Talk with God about the story today. This is a quiet time for you to spend with the Lord, not with your neighbor or anyone else.