

March 24, 2024

TRIUMPHAL ENTRY: JESUS ENTERS JERUSALEM

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: Jesus Is King

SCRIPTURE: [Mark 11](#)

GOD'S BIG STORY: Jesus rides a donkey into Jerusalem as people praise Him by shouting, "Hosanna!" Jesus doesn't look like a normal king, but He saves those who call to Him. He saves them from the powers of sin and death.

INTRO ACTIVITY: Path Parade

ACTIVITY: Palm Branches

God's Big Story

Prayer and Blessing

ACTIVITY: Praise Walk

Wonder@Home™

Designed for families to engage in the wonder of God together at home. This resource includes a video, worship playlists, activities, and more! WONDER@HOME (PDF)



FOR FIVESTONE KIDS LEADERS

INVITATION

We invite you to pause, listen, and shift your gaze toward the Father ...

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: Jesus Is King

SCRIPTURE: [Mark 11](#)

WORD OF WONDER: [From Titus 3:5](#)

Years ago, I traveled to London as part of a mission trip with my youth group. One of the stops we prioritized was Buckingham Palace. It was as regal as you'd expect. I've never seen anything quite like it. We didn't get any glimpses of the royal family, but being that close was a once in a lifetime experience.

Imagine that you have the chance to be in the same room as a royal family member. What do you think you'd see, hear, smell, and experience? Would you have the courage to engage them in conversation? Would you want to touch them or shake their hand?

[Mark 11](#) tells us about Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. After all the miracles He performed in His short time on earth, you'd think His triumphal entry would be on a grand scale. Yet very little about this King was what the Jews would have expected. He didn't charge in with a sword to overthrow the Romans. And He didn't enter the city with pomp and circumstance. Instead, He rode in on a colt as the crowd covered the road with branches and coats and shouted, "Hosanna!"

- How does Jesus' entry model humility for you as a leader?
- As a child of God, do you consider yourself royalty?
- What does Jesus' kingship look like in your life?

King Jesus died on the cross so that you and I could be part of His family forever. You're an heir to the throne!

—Kathie Phillips

Senior Director of Next Gen Ministry

Contributor to Wonder Ink

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DID YOU KNOW?

FOUNDATION BUILDING BLOCKS

WHO?

Jesus was a descendent of King David, and the Jews knew the Messiah would come from David's line. Jesus entered Jerusalem as king. Israel's hopes were in Him to be the fulfillment of God's promise to bring a shoot from the stump of Jesse ([Isaiah 11:1](#)).

WHAT?

The people shouted, "Hosanna," which is a Hebrew exclamation meaning roughly "Save us now!" They spread cloaks and palm branches in front of Him as a sign of royal welcome for a deliverer: not even His animal's hooves would need to touch the dirt.

WHERE?

Jesus was near Jerusalem by the Mount of Olives, which is just east of the city. From this spot, the temple would be visible. The people joyfully welcomed a king to His kingdom, inviting Him to take His throne in the city of David.

WHEN?

Jesus knew that danger was drawing near. Although the common people didn't understand, the kingship of Jesus would be realized through His sacrifice on the cross. Their ultimate rescue would come from Jesus' willingness to give His own life.

CONNECTING TO GOD'S BIG STORY

God promised David that his descendant would rule as king forever ([2 Samuel 7:16](#)). God kept this promise by making Jesus King forever and ever, a reign without end ([Daniel 7:14](#)). In Christ's kingdom, the merciful—not the conquerors—are blessed ([Matthew 5:7](#)).

INTRO ACTIVITY: Path Parade

SUPPLIES: painter's tape, table tennis balls

Before kids arrive, make a straight path with two pieces of painter's tape and set out some table tennis balls nearby. Greet the kids warmly and welcome them to church.

Welcome! Have any of you ever been to a parade? Allow the kids to respond.

During a parade, people stand along the sides of the streets and watch as the parade passes by. We're going to move some table tennis balls down the path like they are on parade!

Have kids take turns rolling the table tennis ball down the path one at a time. You can have the other kids stand beside the pieces of tape and cheer for the kids rolling the balls.

ACTIVITY: Palm Branches

SUPPLIES: palm branch (or picture of a palm branch), green printer paper (1 sheet), scissors (prep only)

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: [Palm Branch Picture](#) (optional)

Ahead of time, print the [Palm Branch Picture](#) onto green printer paper and cut it out, or prepare to display it on a screen. You can also use a real palm branch.

Have the kids sit around you on the floor. Hold up a palm branch or [Palm Branch Picture](#) and show it to the kids.

Pass the palm branch around and let kids touch it and explore it.

This is a branch from a palm tree! In today's story, we are going to hear about people who waved palm branches for Jesus as He passed by. They celebrated Him as a king!

Our Wonder Truth today is JESUS IS KING.

Encourage the kids to do the following motions while you repeat the Wonder Truth. Older toddlers can say the words with you as they do the motions.

JESUS—*Point up.*

IS KING.—*Pretend to put a crown on your head.*

God's Big Story

SUPPLIES: Bible, fabric (1 large piece) or shirt, palm branch (optional), green printer paper (1 sheet, optional)

Wonder Ink RESOURCES: [Palm Branch Picture](#) (optional)

If you don't have a real palm branch, print the [Palm Branch Picture](#) onto green printer paper.

In God's big story today, we're learning a great story from the Bible about a person named Jesus. Encourage the kids to say, "Jesus." **Let's find out from the Bible what happened to Jesus!**

Show the kids the [God's Big Story Video](#) or read the story from the Bible or use the script provided.

Jesus and His friends traveled to the city of Jerusalem. Jesus rode into Jerusalem on the back of a donkey. Do you know what sound a donkey makes? Allow kids to answer.

As people saw Jesus, they knew He was special, and they wanted to honor Him. They took off their coats and laid them on the ground as a path for Jesus to ride upon. Hold up a piece of fabric (or shirt). **Let's pretend this piece of fabric is a coat and lay it on the ground.** Lay the fabric in front of the kids. Let kids take turns walking over the piece of fabric.

The people also cut branches from a palm tree. Some laid the branches on the ground to make a path for King Jesus as He rode the donkey. Some waved the branches in the air to celebrate the arrival of this new king! Hold up the palm branch for kids to see. **Let's wave this palm branch in the air like the people did.** Let each kid take a turn waving the palm branch.

God sent King Jesus to save His people that day—and to save us!

Prayer and Blessing

Let's talk to God. Father God, thank You for sending Your Son, Jesus, to earth as our King. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Encourage the kids to hold their hands out in front of them, with palms up, as if their hands were open to receive something. Tell them to listen and receive the blessing as you speak it over them.

Blessing: May you go out today remembering that Jesus is your King. Never forget God's love for you—the love He displayed by sending Jesus to earth.

ACTIVITY: Praise Walk

SUPPLIES: painter's tape, toy musical instruments (1 per kid)

Gather kids next to the path that you created earlier with painter's tape. **We're going to pretend to have our own celebration parade for Jesus. First, we'll walk down the path and clap our hands. I'll be the leader, and you can follow me.** Lead kids down the path as they clap their hands.

Now we're going to play instruments while we walk down the path. Hand out a musical instrument to each child. Guide them down the path again and allow them to play their instruments while they walk.

Repeat the activity as time allows. You could have kids march, crawl, or wave palm branches.

You did a great job celebrating Jesus as King! Let's do one more thing to celebrate Jesus as King. When I say, "Go," you can clap and cheer as loud as you can for Jesus. Ready, set, go! Guide kids in clapping and cheering for Jesus.