



UNIT 8, SESSION 5

PALM SUNDAY

MATTHEW 21

KEY POINTS

Jesus is our King. • We should praise Him. • God keeps His promises.

BIG PICTURE QUESTION

Who is our King? Jesus is our King!

MEMORY VERSE

The Lord is my strength and my shield. Psalm 28:7

PREPARE



Take time to reflect on today's lesson.

LEADER BIBLE STUDY

This week, we guide children through the final days of Jesus' life and help them understand why He came: to save us and show us how to love and serve others.

Think about a parade. In Bible times, when a king or famous person came to town, people would wave, cheer, and shout. When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the people shouted, "Hosanna!", which means "Save us!" (Matthew 21:9). This was not accidental. Long before Jesus came, God promised a King would arrive gently and humbly (Zechariah 9:9). Jesus is the King God promised, the One who came to save His people.

Although Jesus is King, He chose to serve. In John 13:1-17, Jesus washes His disciples' feet. This was a job meant for servants, yet Jesus willingly did it to show His love. He taught that true greatness is found in serving others. Jesus calls us to love and serve the people around us with humble hearts.

In Bible times, people wore sandals and their feet became very dirty. When Jesus washed His disciples' feet, He showed more than kindness; He showed His mission. Jesus came not only to clean feet, but also to cleanse hearts. Through His death, He washes away our sins because He loves us.

At the Passover meal, Jesus shared bread and wine with His disciples (Mark 14:22-24). God's people had celebrated Passover for generations to remember how God saved them from Egypt. Jesus explained that the bread represented His body and the cup His blood. He was showing that His own life would be given so we could be saved.

Later, in the garden of Gethsemane (Mark 14:32-50), Jesus prayed in deep sadness and distress. He asked God if there was another way, yet He chose to obey God's plan. Jesus trusted His Father even when the path was hard.

Jesus is our saving King. He is also our servant and our loving Savior. Because of Him, we are forgiven, loved, and invited to follow Him by serving others.

Thank God for Jesus, the King who saves and the Servant who gave His life for us!

WELCOME & OPENING



Connect with children as service starts.

WELCOME

Play music through the undercabinet radio (flash drive), or connect your phone to Bluetooth through the radio and play Christian preschool/Bible songs as you greet children coming into the classroom. Help them transition in and feel welcome as they play games and interact with others.

MEMORY VERSE SONG

Gather children and sing the song below to the tune of “Jesus Loves Me”:

The Lord is my strength and my shield.
Psalm 28:7
(repeat 2x)

THE LORD’S PRAYER/TEN COMMANDMENTS

Toddlers & Twos: Use the provided poster to review the Lord’s Prayer with the children in your class.

Threes & Fours: Using the provided poster, review the Ten Commandments with the children in your class. Read through each one, then have children repeat after you as you say them together.

ACTIVITY



Help children with an activity connected to the lesson.

ACTIVITY: TRIUMPHAL ENTRY

Pass out the provided scarves/bandanas, palm branches, and inflatable donkeys. In your room, reenact Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem!

Have children rotate through waving palm branches, laying down scarves/bandanas, and riding the donkeys as you reenact the scene several times. Have everyone say, "Hosanna!" all together. Review elements of the lesson throughout the activity.

At the end of service, send each child home with one of the provided palm branches.





BABIES & TWOS BIBLE LESSON

Jesus entered Jerusalem riding a donkey. The people waved palm branches and made a path with their clothes and shouted, "Hosanna!"

At a special Passover celebration, Jesus washed the disciples' feet. "This is the job of a servant, not the king of kings," the disciples thought. But Jesus came to serve, not to be served. He tells us to serve like He did.

Then, they had a meal together and afterward went to a garden to pray. Jesus asked God to help Him do the right thing, even though it was going to be very hard.

THREES & FOURS BIBLE LESSON

Jerusalem was full of people to see Jesus. The people treated Jesus like a king. They shouted, "Hosanna!" and other praises and waved palm branches. They even put their clothes on the road to keep the donkey's feet clean.

Jesus planned a special Passover meal with His disciples. When they arrived, Jesus had a towel ready to wash their dirty feet. The disciples didn't think this was right. It was a job for a servant, not a king. But Jesus came to serve. During the meal, Jesus took some bread and broke it. Jesus told His disciples that He would be broken for them. He also poured wine into a glass and shared it with His disciples. He told them this would be a new promise to them. Then they sang a hymn together.

After the meal, Jesus and the disciples went to a garden called Gethsemane (geth-SEM-uh-knee). Jesus asked His disciples to pray with Him because soon, bad things would happen. but they kept falling asleep. Jesus prayed alone. He asked God to help Him do the right thing, even though it was difficult.

KEY POINTS: Jesus is our King. • We should praise Him. • God keeps His promises.

SNACK & CLOSING



Continue to engage children near the end of the morning.

SNACK & DISCUSSION

Have everyone wash their hands, then serve a snack. Ask the following questions and retell parts of the lesson as needed.

1. What was your favorite part of today's Bible lesson?
2. What did you learn about God in today's Bible lesson?
3. What did the people shout to welcome Jesus to Jerusalem?
4. Who is our King? **Jesus is our King!**

CLOSING ACTIVITIES

Sing the clean up song. Have children help put toys on tables.

Gather them on the rug in a circle and have one volunteer read today's Bible lesson from the children's Bible. Have a regular Bible ready as well.

Sing the "B.I.B.L.E." and "Everything in the Bible is Absolutely True" songs. Remind children that the Bible is God's Word and the most important book in the whole world!

The other volunteer should stand at the door and help with pick up, matching stickers, gathering children's things, etc.

BEFORE YOU GO...

Second service leaders, please clean up by doing the following:

1. Spray down toys with disinfectant.
2. Spot sweep if needed.
3. Return toys to closet, close door.
4. Throw away any trash left on counters and in room.
5. Return binders to the cabinet.

THANK YOU FOR SERVING WITH US!