



Family Life Group

Sunday 5th April 2020



CHALLENGE:

Last session we asked you to try and remember a Bible verse. See who can remember it.

Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. John 11:40-41a

HERE IS A GREAT ANIMATION THAT TELLS TODAY'S STORY

This is a very long reading this week, so we have 2 videos!

Jesus Triumphant Entry

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z-39h0xYqdE>

Jesus Clears the Temple

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WL0VY5FD6wA>

Matthew 21:1-16

As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ²saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. ³If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away."

⁴This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet:

⁵"Say to Daughter Zion,

'See, your king comes to you,
gentle and riding on a donkey,
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.'"

⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. ⁷They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. ⁸A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David!"

"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"

"Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

¹⁰When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, "Who is this?"

¹¹The crowds answered, "This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee."

¹²Jesus entered the temple courts and drove out all who were buying and selling there. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the benches of those selling doves. ¹³"It is written," he said to them, "'My house will be called a house of prayer,'¹ but you are making it 'a den of robbers.'"² ¹⁴The blind and the lame came to him at the temple, and he healed them. ¹⁵But when the chief priests and the teachers of the law saw the wonderful things he did and the children shouting in the temple courts, "Hosanna to the Son of David," they were indignant.

¹⁶"Do you hear what these children are saying?" they asked him.

“Yes,” replied Jesus, “have you never read,
“From the lips of children and infants
you, Lord, have called forth your praise’?”

MAIN THOUGHT:

Jesus came with power, but He had no weapon. An encounter with Jesus is life changing!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS: *These are to guide the general conversation.*

1. Have you ever been really excited to see someone?
2. Name the most powerful thing you can think of?
3. The people shout, “Hosanna” to Jesus. Research what that word means.
4. Have you ever felt really angry about something? How did you react? How is it the same/different to how Jesus reacts on the temple?

ACTIVITIES:

CRAFT ACTIVITY

Handy Palms

- Paddle pop sticks or a ruler
- Green paper
- Scissors
- Glue and sticky tape.



Using the green paper, trace around your hands and cut out. You will need 8-10 prints per person. Starting at the top of your stick or ruler, stick the base of your hand on. Stick the next one on top, making sure the first one sticks out a little. Continue with all your ‘hands’. Make sure you have enough stick left at the bottom to hold. Now you are ready to wave your palms and shout, “Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!”

ACTIVE ACTIVITY

Minute to Win It, Palm Sunday Edition.

Below are 10 Palm Sunday ‘Minute to Win It’ games. Have a fun family games afternoon, or you could make it a competition, and the winner gets to ride triumphantly into Jerusalem!!



10 PALM SUNDAY MINUTE TO WIN IT GAMES



I'M A FAN

Items needed:

- A palm branch (or fake palm branch)
- Two balloons
- A hula-hoop

Instructions:

When Jesus entered Jerusalem, they waved palm branches to welcome him. In this challenge you must wave your palm branch to guide two balloons into the center of the hula-hoop. Accomplish this mighty deed in 60 seconds or less, and you win a prize.

Application:

People waved palm branches to welcome Jesus into Jerusalem.

DROPPING PALMS

Items needed:

- A step stool
- A hula-hoop
- Palm branches or fake palm branches

Instructions:

The people of Jerusalem covered the road in palms to welcome Jesus. Your task in this challenge is to drop the palms on the circle below while standing on the stool, covering the full circle. If you can completely cover the circle with palm branches before 60 seconds elapses, you win a prize.

Application:

The blood of Jesus covers our sins.

ENTER THE GATES

Items needed:

Two empty 20 oz soda bottles, one filled with Skittles

Instructions:

Jesus wasn't the only one who entered Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. A large crowd passed through the gates into the city. Your challenge in this game is to get all the M&Ms from the full bottle into the other bottle. You have 60 seconds to move all the M&Ms to their new home. Be careful not to spill any, or this game will become even harder!

Application:

God wants us all to come together each week to celebrate what Jesus has done for us.

NAME THAT SONG

Items needed:

See Set Up

Set up:

Create a list of hymns or worship songs your kids should all know and write down the lyrics for each. An adult leader will read the verses to the kids, and they will have to name the song. Depending on the age of the kids, pick 6-10 songs. (Use fewer songs for younger kids.)

Instructions:

People greeted Jesus with songs of praise when He rode into Jerusalem. In this challenge you will hear the words to 10 songs we sing every week. Your task is to name all the songs before time runs out. You only have 60 seconds to complete this challenge!

Application:

We sing songs of praise to let Jesus know how much we love Him!

DONKEY BALL

Items needed:

A small kiddie basketball hoop and ball

Instructions:

The donkey who brought Jesus to Jerusalem was truly gentle, but a donkey has a mean back kick when he gets agitated. In this challenge you will attempt to sink a basketball, donkey style, by tossing a ball over your shoulder and kicking it into the hoop. If you can make one basket in 60 seconds or less, you will win a prize.

Applications:

Kings rode into town on a donkey when they came in peace. Jesus came to bring us peace.

COAT HANGER

Items needed:

Three heavy coats
A coat rack

Instructions:

The people who had coats laid them down on the road when Jesus made his entrance. In this challenge, you must try and hang three coats up on the coat rack by tossing the coats from four feet away. You will only have 60 seconds to complete this challenge, but if you do, you will win a prize.

Applications:

Like the people of Jerusalem, we should welcome Jesus into our hearts.

COAT BRIDGE

Items needed:

Tape
Two heavy coats

Set up:

Mark two lines on the floor parallel to each other, 15 feet apart.

Instructions:

To win this challenge, you must travel over the tops of two coats from the start to finish, just as Jesus did when He entered Jerusalem. Lay down one coat to start, then the second. While standing on the second, pick up the first coat, and lay it down in front of you to take your third step. Continue this way until you reach the finish or until time runs out.

Application:

We should follow in Jesus' footsteps and love other people.

PALM PICKUP

Items needed:

10 Palm Leaves
A bag or cup
Tongs or tweezers

Instructions:

After Jesus entered Jerusalem, someone had to clean up the palm branches left behind. Your task is to pick up 10 palm leaves and place them in a cup, using only a pair of tongs to handle them. Complete this challenge in a minute or less, and you are a winner.

Application:

Jesus came to clean up our sins.

PRECIOUS CARGO

Items needed:

A bowl of candy
Tape

Set up:

Mark two lines on the ground parallel to each other 5 feet apart.

Instructions:

The donkey who brought Jesus into Jerusalem was certainly carrying precious cargo. In this challenge, you must crawl on all fours from the starting line to the finish line carrying a bowl of candy on your back. Move gently and deliberately, but don't take too long. You only have 60 seconds to finish this challenge.

Application:

Jesus will carry us through tough times.

ENTER THE GATES

Items needed:

A hula-hoop

Set up:

Choose five players for this game. Have them stand side by side and hold hands.

Instructions:

To celebrate Jesus entering the gates of Jerusalem, we are challenging you and your friends to enter through the narrow gate of a hula-hoop. Starting on one end and moving to the other, you and your teammates must all pass through the hula-hoop while holding hands. You can twist and contort your body any way you choose, but you may not let go of each other's hands. You will have 60 seconds to get all of your team members to pass through the hoop.

Application:

Jesus came to Earth and to Jerusalem to save us from our sins.

PRAYER:

Praise Jesus for who He is and what He has and is doing. Ask for forgiveness for the times we don't remember how powerful Jesus is. Ask Jesus to bring His power into situations in our lives that need Him.

BLESSING: *Name, the power of Jesus' love is at work in you. Amen.*

CHALLENGE: Try and remember this verse this week. Perhaps you and your family might like to make up some actions to help, or even a song?

When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, "Who is this?"
Matthew 21:10

COMMUNITY CONNECTION:

We would love to see how you and your family are growing faith in your home.

Why not set up a mini 'Table' for the kids like we have been using at LifeWay? It can be as simple as paper and pencils, scissors and glue and Lego or Play dough. They can then make something while you watch the Live Stream as a family.

If you are happy to share photos or videos of what you have been doing please send them to Elise von Stanke elise.vonstanke@lifeway.net.au and we will share these with our community through Facebook and Instagram.