



Kindergarten-2nd

March 21-22, 2015

DATE

Palm Sunday

LESSON TITLE

Luke 19:28-40
Adventure Bible for Early Readers (pp. 1225-1226)

WHERE TO FIND IT

Jesus is the promised king, and we can praise him.

MAIN POINT

schedule

Connect Time (15 minutes): Five minutes after the service begins, split kids into groups and begin their activity.

Large Group (30 minutes): Begin 20 minutes after the service starts. Model what it looks like to be engaged in large group.

Small Group (15 minutes): Keep kids in small groups until parents arrive. If you *all* have extra time at the end, you can review the video and songs together.

tips

This weekend isn't really Palm Sunday; next weekend is. So while we're telling the story of Palm Sunday, we're not making a big deal about using the term "Palm Sunday." Next week, kids will learn about Jesus' last supper, and we think it's important to teach the story in chronological order as we build up to Easter.

check-in/out

As kids leave, encourage them to tell their parents what they added to the group palm leaf today.

large group heads up

Today we're talking about when Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey, which is when people recognized Jesus as the Rescuer they had been waiting for. They treated him like a king...because he IS our king!



connect time

GOAL: *Connect Time is all about engaging kids in an activity that allows them to connect with each other right away while simultaneously piquing their curiosity for Large Group and preparing their minds for what they're going to hear.*

A WAITING GAME: HEADS UP SEVEN UP

*If you're playing with a group of more than 14 kids; *if not, see the note below.*

- Choose 7 kids
- Have those seven stand in front while the others are sitting anywhere
- Someone says "heads down, thumbs up"
- Everyone puts their heads down and their thumbs up except the seven standing
- Each of the seven get to touch one person's thumb. When someone's thumb is touched, he/she puts it down.
- Then somebody says "heads up, seven up" and the seven people whose thumbs were touched stand up.
- Each person who was "tagged" guesses who tagged them. If they guess correctly, they get to switch places and be one of the seven "taggers." If they guess incorrectly, they sit down and try again next time!
- **AT THE END:** Gather kids together and ask them about the best and worst parts of their week!

**If you're playing with a smaller group, just choose 3 or 4 "taggers." All other game play is the same.*

Before you head into Large Group, remind them about your expectations for their behavior: (1) be kind, (2) listen when somebody speaks, and (3) follow the leader's instructions.



instructions

Goal: Kids will (1) understand the events of the story and (2) identify ways we can treat Jesus as our king.

Why? It's important that kids understand that Jesus was God's promised Rescuer—and is still our king today.

Tips: Ahead of time, consider the small group questions that would best fit your group.

small group

DIG DEEPER AND RELATE

1. What did Jesus do to announce that he was the Rescuer King who had been promised hundreds of years before?
2. What did the people in Jerusalem do as Jesus rode into town?
3. *Why* were people shouting and laying down palm branches?
4. Does anybody remember why Jesus started crying in this story?
5. What would you guys have done if you were in Jerusalem when Jesus rode in on a donkey?
6. What can we do now to treat Jesus as king?

FOUR CORNERS (ACTIVITY #1)

Today, we don't wave palm trees or lay down coats for kings. In fact, we don't even have kings in our country. But let's think of some ways that we can treat Jesus like the king by worshiping him. To do that we're going to play four corners. (You can have kids go to a corner of a table or area in the room, or just hold up 4 fingers.)

- When you think about worshiping Jesus, would you rather: (1) sing, (2) dance, (3) pray, (4) help a person in need
- If Jesus was standing in front of you, would you: (1) hug him, (2) fall down in front of him, (3) start talking to him or (4) smile at him
- Jesus says we give him praise when we love other people. Would you rather: (1) give money to someone, (2) help someone, (3) hug someone, (4) make a card for someone
- When you get really, really excited, do you (1) scream, (2) jump up and down, (3) sing, or (4) draw/write about it
- When you pray, do you like to (1) kneel, (2) lay down, (3) sit, (4) you never really thought about it

(Continue on the next page)

PRAISE PALMS (ACTIVITY #2)

Give each kid a **strip of green paper**. Tell them that all the things we just talked about (you can read through them again) are ways to worship Jesus. Ask kids if they can think of any others.

Then have them write down **ONE** way they like to worship on their strip of paper. Help them glue the strips along the group's big brown strip of paper. (Glue one straight up from the top. Then all the others should be angled up.) See below for how to glue:



***Pray with the kids, thanking Jesus that he is King.**

*Then do the **coloring page** together. Extra time? Play Four Corners again. But this time, mix up the categories. You can have kids identify favorite foods, colors, movies, seasons, etc. You can even let them take turns giving the group options.*

special notes

Introducing kids to the prophecy might be a little advanced for some of the younger ones. But we think it's worth teaching so that they begin to think about the validity of Christ's character at an early age.

presenter tips

In the beginning, you get to dress up like a king to compare and contrast the stereotype of a king...and Jesus. Really play that up.

script

*Click to play intro music

Hi everybody, welcome to Kids' Club! It's great to see you here today. You just played a game of Heads Up, Seven Up. Raise your hand if you had to WAIT for somebody to tag you. (Let kids respond.) Do you guys like waiting to have your thumb tagged? (Let 2-3 kids respond. Follow up with why or why not?)

I don't like to wait for things very much. It's hard to wait, especially for something you really want! And in today's story, people were *waiting*. You know, sometimes we talk about how people waited for the king God promised. But imagine waiting hundreds and hundreds of years for something. Some people died before they got to see Jesus.

PEOPLE WAITED FOR A KING

But of course, God DID send a king, just like he promised. (**Show Christmas picture.**) When Jesus was born, some people *knew* he was the promised king, the rescuer. But some people didn't know it yet. So they were still waiting...see, they were waiting for a *king*, and Jesus didn't seem like a king at first.

OK, let's think about that. If you were waiting for a king and looking for him, what kinds of things would you look for? Would you maybe look for...a crown? (Pull out the **crown**; let kids respond.) That makes sense. How about...a fancy robe? (Pull out the **robe** and put it on; let kids respond.) What else? (Let kids respond.) Yeah, those are great ideas. And how do you think a king would get around? Maybe a fancy horse? (**Click to show picture of horse**; let kids react.)

JESUS DIDN'T LOOK LIKE A KING

But guess what? Jesus didn't look like a king. He didn't have a crown (take off the crown) and he didn't have a robe (take off the robe). And he wasn't a mighty warrior who rode on a



script continued

majestic horse. In fact, when Jesus was ready to announce that he was the king, he asked his disciples to go get him a young donkey to ride on, like this: **(play the brief clip of the donkey)**. That doesn't seem very kingly, does it?!

But hundreds of years ago, there was a verse in the Bible, written by a man named Zechariah. Zechariah was a prophet, which meant God told him things, and he told other people. And one day, God told him something about the king:

SLIDE: Zechariah 9:9: City of Zion, be full of joy!

People of Jerusalem, shout!

See, your king comes to you.

He always does what is right.

He has the power to save.

He is gentle and riding on a donkey.

He is sitting on a donkey's colt.

JESUS IS TREATED LIKE A KING

And a week before Jesus rescued us, he announced that he is the king by doing *exactly* what God told Zechariah he would do hundreds and HUNDREDS of years before Jesus was even born. He rode into a Jerusalem on a donkey! And when he did, people knew that this must be the Rescuer God was sending. And they treated Jesus like a king!

We're going to watch a video about what happened. As you watch, see if you can figure out HOW people treated Jesus like a king, what they did when he came riding in. Let's take a look!

Video: God's Story: Palm Sunday

Wow, so how did people treat Jesus? What did they do as he came riding into Jerusalem? (Let kids respond.) That's right, they waved palm branches, laid their coats on the ground, and shouted praises to him! And that's exactly what they did to kings who wore crowns and robes and rode on majestic horses. The way they acted shows us that they KNEW Jesus is the King!

JESUS IS THE KING

Of course, as you saw in the video, there were still some people who didn't believe Jesus was King. And that made Jesus SO sad, because Jesus wants all of us to know that he's rescued us! There are still some people who don't believe Jesus is King today. And that makes him sad too. But one day, when God re-creates a perfect world that has no wrong things in it, everyone will recognize Jesus as king. And until then, we can treat Jesus like our king *right now!*

We'll talk more about how to do that in small groups. But now, let's treat him as king by telling him that we love him and think he's the BEST!



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WORSHIP

First, let's tell Jesus that we believe he's OUR king by telling him that we belong to him. Then we'll dance, shout and sing for our king!

Music Video: I'm Yours

Song: Dance Shout and Sing

PRAY

Ask somebody to come and thank Jesus for being such a gentle and loving and perfect King!



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PREP needs



connect time supplies

Heads Up Seven Up - No supplies needed

small group supplies

Per kid

1 green strip of copy paper
Coloring page: Palm Sunday

1 beanbag
markers

Adventure Bible for Early Readers (pp. 1225-1226)

Per group

Gluesticks
1 3x18" brown strip of construction paper strips; see

large group supplies

Crown
Robe
Adventure Bible for Early Readers (pp. 1225-1226)

a/v needs

1. Song slide: for when kids enter the room (All that You Need instrumental; mp3 only; can be downloaded on website)
2. Image: Christmas
3. Image: horse
4. Donkey clip: (the first 20 seconds ONLY of this:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gR007xSTxfY>)
5. SLIDE: Zechariah 9:9: City of Zion, be full of joy!
People of Jerusalem, shout!
See, your king comes to you.
He always does what is right.
6. Video: God's Story / Palm Sunday
(<https://vimeo.com/59691514>)
7. Music Video: I'm Yours
(<https://vimeo.com/77168212>)
8. Song: Dance Shout and Sing (from K5 song slides Keynote)

connect questions

Tell me how Jesus announced he was king.
How can we treat Jesus as king?

parent page

In today's story, Jesus was recognized as the long-awaited Rescuer King! Ask your kid to tell you how people treated Him—and how we can worship him as king today! You can also watch a video about it by searching for "God's Story: Palm Sunday" at CrossroadsKidsClub.net or read about it in Luke 19:28-40 in the Bible.