

PALM SUNDAY

Leader Guide for One Room

Adapted for Faith Wesleyan Families' Home Use

 Matthew 21:1-11; Mark 11:1-11; Luke 19:28-40; John 12:12-16

04/05/2020

Overview for Parents

Dig In to the Bible

- Read: Luke 19:28-40; Matthew 21:1-11; Mark 11:1-11; John 12:12-16
- In This Passage: Jesus and his disciples head toward Jerusalem. Two disciples get there first and borrow a donkey colt for Jesus to ride. He rides triumphantly down the road as the crowds spread palm branches and robes on the road in his path. They call out praises, declaring that Jesus is the King.
- Bible Point: Jesus is the King.
- Summary Verse: “For, at just the right time Christ will be revealed from heaven by the blessed and only almighty God, the King of all kings and Lord of all lords” (1 Timothy 6:15).

Dig Deeper

- You'll Be Teaching: *Jesus is the King.* Although your kids might not live in a country ruled by a king, they've probably seen enough movies and read enough books to understand how powerful and special a king is. They may also see celebrities who are treated like royalty. Use this lesson to help kids see that Jesus deserves that kind of honor, too.
- Think About: How is Jesus like what you'd expect a king to be like? How is he different?

Dig In to Prayer

- Pray for kids to develop a heart of worship for King Jesus.



FAMILY DISCUSSION

[5 min]

Tell about a parade *you've* been to or seen on TV or in a movie



TALK-ABOUT VIDEO

[10 min]

Small People Productions

Supplies

- “Small People Productions” teaching video (watch or download [here or https://vimeo.com/showcase/5901065/video/329188766](https://vimeo.com/showcase/5901065/video/329188766))

Note: You might want to read the passages listed in the overview before watching the video.

Discuss and Watch “Small People Productions”

Say: Today we're learning about the time Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey. People praised Jesus because they realized that Jesus is the King! Let's watch a video where a couple of kids re-create the scene. We'll see how they picture it.

Watch “Small People Productions.”

Ask: • **What did you think of their video? How was it like the actual Bible story? How was it different from the Bible story?**

Say: **There probably weren't rubber chickens on Palm Sunday. And I'm pretty sure a giant dog...er...colt...didn't try to eat Jesus! But people *did* praise Jesus and put their coats on the road to treat him like a king. And we can do the same because Jesus is the King!**



LOW-ENERGY GAME

[10 min]

Even the Stones

Make a Motion!

Have kids sit in a circle.

Say: **In our Bible story, the people waved palm branches and shouted out praises to Jesus as he rode by. When the Pharisees told Jesus to make them stop, Jesus told them that if the people were quiet, even the stones would burst out in cheers. Let's think more about that as we play a game.**

Stand in the center of the circle. Explain to kids you're going to randomly call out either "praise" or "stones." When you say "praise," kids will wave their hands over their heads like they're waving palm branches. When you say "stones," kids will curl into a ball on the ground and cheer. Once kids understand the actions, begin the game. Start out slowly calling either "praise" or "stones." Then begin calling out the commands faster and faster until kids can't keep up.

Talk About It

Ask: • **It was hard to keep up in this game. When is it hard for you to remember to praise Jesus?**

• **How does it make you feel to know that the stones would praise Jesus even if people wouldn't?**

Say: **Sometimes we're moving so fast or are so focused on other things that we forget that Jesus is the King. The Bible reminds us that as King, Jesus deserves our praise. Even the stones would recognize that Jesus is the King.**



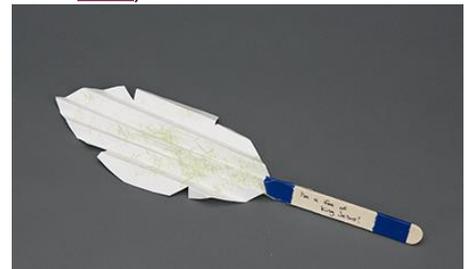
CRAFT

[20 min]

Fans of the King

Supplies

- "Palm Leaf" handouts printed on 11x17 paper (optional) (1 per child) (download [here](#))
- scissors
- poster board
- spinach leaves
- craft sticks (2 per child)
- permanent markers
- duct tape (green or brown works best)
- stickers (optional)



Tip

- If you don't want to use spinach leaves, kids can just color their fans with green crayons or markers.

Make a Palm Leaf

Give each child a "Palm Leaf" handout. Have kids cut out the shape and then trace it on poster board. Have them cut the shape out of the poster board. Alternatively, kids can draw and cut out their own palm leaf shapes. Older kids can help younger kids with the cutting.

To decorate the leaf, give each child one or two spinach leaves. Have kids use their fists to hammer the leaves onto the poster board, staining it with green on both sides. One leaf should be enough to cover the entire fan.

Make a Fan

To make fans out of their leaves, have kids accordion fold them. Then have each child use duct tape to secure two craft sticks to the bottom of the leaf as a handle. Help younger kids as needed. On the handle, kids can write “I’m a fan of King Jesus.” Younger kids can just use markers or stickers to decorate the handle.

Talk About It

Ask: • **How does your leaf fan remind you of the way people worshipped Jesus?**

Say: **Jesus is the King! He deserves our worship. Sometimes kings have people to fan them so they don’t get too hot. In the Bible story, people used palm leaves to worship Jesus. We can remember to worship Jesus as a king and be his biggest “fans”!**

Encourage kids to take their crafts home and use them to keep cool. They can also fan their friends or family members as they tell them about the Bible story. They can tell others why they’re “fans” of Jesus.



OBJECT LESSON

[10 min]

Power Over Pepper

Supplies

- white disposable plates
- cups of water
- pepper
- clear liquid dish soap
- cotton swabs
- small paper cup
- large bowl
- trays (optional)

Easy Prep

- Pour the clear liquid dish soap into a small cup and stick 1 cotton swab in it for every kid. Then flip the cotton swabs over so both ends get covered in soap.

Discover Who Has Power Over Pepper

Have kids gather around a table.

Say: **Today we’re learning that Jesus is the King. Let’s think more about the power of a king as we do an experiment. In fact, in this experiment we’re going to see which one of you has the “Power Over Pepper.”**

Give each group a plate and a cup of water. Have groups pour the water onto their plates. Then walk around and sprinkle some pepper on the water for each group.

Finally, give each child a cotton swab, making sure one child per group gets one that has been dipped in dish soap

Say: **One at a time, you’ll gently touch your cotton swab to the surface of the water.**

Watch closely to see what, if anything, happens to the pepper when each person touches the water. Once everyone has a chance to touch the water, we’ll gather together and discuss what you observed.

Allow time for each group to experiment before gathering everyone together again. (The clean cotton swabs may part the pepper a little bit, but the dish soap-soaked ones will have a clearer impact.) You may want to have kids dump their plates of water into the large bowl once the “Power” people have dipped their swabs; then set up a fresh plate so that the other kids in the group can also try it.

Have kids pour their pepper water into a large bowl and dispose of their plates and cotton swabs.

Talk About It

Ask: • **How could you tell who had the “Power Over Pepper” in your group?**

• **How can you tell that Jesus is the King, worthy of praise?**

Say: **Each group had someone with the “Power Over Pepper.” You could tell they had power because of what they did! We can tell Jesus is King because of all the miracles he did. And in today’s story, he was treated like a king!**

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