

BIBLE PASSAGE

Matthew 21:1-11,14-16

CHRIST FOCUS

Jesus deserves our praise and worship.

LIFE ACTION

Help the boys and girls understand that praise and worship is more than singing and praying.
Challenge them to show the love of Jesus to a friend.

LIFE VERSE

This is Jesus.

- MATTHEW 21:11

LOBL

Jesus

LEADER BIBLE STUDY

How long has it been since you watched or participated in a parade? Parades and celebrations are woven into the cultures of many communities, religions, nations, and people groups.

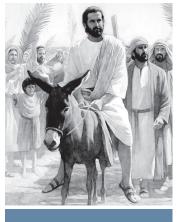
The Bible tells of numerous celebrations and festivals. Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem might be likened to a parade and, from our Christian perspective, marks a significant event related to His messianic mission.

Read Matthew 21:1-11. What assignment did Jesus give to two of His disciples? Compare Matthew 21:5 to Zechariah 9:9. Riding on a donkey as opposed to entering on a warhorse also followed the pattern set by David and his sons. See 2 Samuel 18:9 and 1 Kings 1:33. Today we roll out the red carpet for heads of state and other important dignitaries. How did the people prepare the way for Jesus' approach (v. 8)? The crowds in Jerusalem recognized Jesus as the prophet from Nazareth who was deserving of special honor and praise.

Do you have a customary way of showing Jesus that you love Him? Do you honor Him in song, during a Bible study, or through service? How can you lead these young children to express love to Jesus?

Read Matthew 21:14-17. Jesus healed people in the courtyard of the temple. Children praised Jesus in the courtyard, too. What phrase of praise did they use? Why this phrase? Perhaps the children were repeating words they had heard previously from adults.

Children are listening to us even when they seem not to be paying attention.
Think about the children you teach. What do they hear teachers talking about? Are they more apt to hear us talking about Jesus or discussing news of friends and neighbors? This week thank God for Jesus. Sing songs about Jesus and repeat the Life Verse. Guide children to thank God for Jesus.



PEOPLE WELCOMED JESUS

—Based on Matthew 21:1-11,14-16

Jesus and His disciples were walking along the road to Jerusalem. When they came near a town, Jesus told His disciples, "Go into the town. You will find a donkey and its colt. Bring them to me."

The two disciples went to the town and brought the donkeys to Jesus. The disciples spread their coats on the young donkey to make a soft place for Jesus to sit. Jesus climbed on the donkey. He began riding to Jerusalem.

Along the way, many people were waiting to see Jesus. Some people spread their coats on the road. Others cut branches from palm trees and spread them on the road. As Jesus passed by, the people shouted, "Hosanna! Hosanna!"

When Jesus entered the city, people asked, "Who is this man?" The crowds answered, "This is Jesus."

When Jesus came to the temple, He healed people who were blind and people who could not walk. Children were in the temple, too. "Hosanna!" the children called to Jesus. He listened to the sounds of their happy voices.

Some men were upset when they saw the things that Jesus did and heard the children praising Him. "Jesus," they asked, "do You hear those children?"

"Yes," Jesus answered. "Haven't you read what the Bible says? God planned for children to praise Him." Jesus knew that the children were doing what God wanted them to do.

CDOL	ID T		
GROU		IME	

- **Move to music.** Give each child a streamer. Play a selection from the CD and encourage the children to stand and wave their streamers.
- ▶ **Tell the Bible story.** Open your Bible to Matthew 21. Comment that today's story has the word *hosanna*. Tell the children to listen and put one of their hands on their head when they hear the word. Tell the story in your own words.
- **Review the story.** Show the Teaching Picture and ask questions to review the story.
- **Learn the Life Verse.** Open your Bible and read aloud Matthew 21:11. Guide the boys and girls to repeat the verse and reference with you three times. Form two groups of children. Direct the first group to chant the verse and the second to chant the reference. After four times, switch groups and continue.
- ▶ **Apply the Bible story.** Comment that the people knew Jesus was special and wanted to praise Him. Prompt the children to name ways they can praise Jesus. Be prepared to help with suggestions such as singing, praying, hearing Bible stories, and so forth. Pray and thank God for sending Jesus.

•••••
CD: Teaching Picture:
"People Welcomed
Jesus"; "Bible Markers"

Notes

Pa	aper strean	ners

LIFE VERSE

This is Jesus. Matthew 21:11

LEARNING ACTIVITIES



- CD: Kids Activity Page
- Paper plates, scissors, 12-inch strips of crepe paper streamers, tape, markers

- 12-by-18-inch manila paper, green paint in cups, paintbrushes, painting smocks, newspaper
- Cut the paper into large leaf shapes. Cut two or three notches in each side of the shape.
- CD: Teaching Picture "People Welcomed Jesus"; "Bible Figures"
- Felt or paper cutouts of coat and leaf shapes, tape, blocks
- Tape the Bible story figures to blocks.
- Puzzles Jesus, My Special Friend and Children Praise Jesus; Life of Jesus wooden box puzzle
- wooden box puzzle

MAKE STREAMERS AND SING ABOUT JESUS

- Christ Focus: Jesus deserves our praise and worship.
- ▶ Bible Focus: Children worshiped Jesus at the temple.
 - Cut the center from the paper plates to make a 2-inch wide ring. Children can tape streamers to the ring and decorate the rings with markers.
 - Play a song about Jesus and lead the children to sing and wave their streamers in time with the music.
 - Help a child complete the activity on the Activity Page. Talk about the Bible story and say the Life Verse. Pray, thanking God for sending Jesus. (*Dramatic Play*)

PAINT ON LEAF-SHAPED PAPER

- Christ Focus: Jesus deserves our praise and worship.
- **Bible Focus:** People put palm leaves on the road.
 - Give each child a leaf shape on a piece of newspaper. Help the children put on painting smocks.
 - Invite the kids to paint on their leaf shapes with green paint.
 - Talk about the Bible story as the children paint. Mention that people cut palm leaves and branches and laid them on the road as Jesus rode by.
 - Say the Life Verse. Comment that we should thank God for Jesus. (Art)

PLAY OUT THE BIBLE STORY

- Christ Focus: Jesus deserves our praise and worship.
- **Bible Focus:** Jesus rode a donkey into Jerusalem, and people worshiped Him.
 - Invite the boys and girls to play out the story using the Bible figures, coat and leaf cutouts, and blocks.
 - Point to the Teaching Picture to show the children what happened when Jesus rode into Jerusalem. Mention that the people shouted "Hosanna!" as He rode by.
 - Say the Life Verse. Pray and thank God for Jesus. (Blocks)

COMPLETE PUZZLES ABOUT JESUS

- **Christ Focus:** Jesus deserves our praise and worship.
- **Bible Focus:** People praised and worshiped Jesus.
 - Arrange the puzzles on a table. Invite the boys and girls to work together or alone to complete a puzzle.
 - Talk about the Bible story as the children complete the puzzles. Remind them about other stories of Jesus represented by the puzzles.

• Comment that Jesus deserves our praise because He is the Son of God. Thank God for sending Jesus. (Puzzles and Games)

CREATE LEAF DESIGNS

- Christ Focus: Jesus deserves our praise and worship.
- **Bible Focus:** People placed palm branches on the road in front of Jesus.
 - Give each child a square of contact plastic. Tape it to the table sticky side up. Invite the boys and girls to make a design with the leaves on their pieces of plastic.
 - Talk about the Bible story as the children make designs. Comment that the people were happy to see Jesus and laid the palm branches and leaves in the road in front of Him. Say the Life Verse.
 - When a child is finished with her design, cover it with another piece of plastic. (Nature and Science)

BONUS ACTIVITIES

MAKE A HOSANNA BANNER

Print the word *HOSANNA* on a large sheet of paper. Invite the kids to decorate the banner with markers, crayons, and stickers. Talk about the meaning of the word and how it was used in the Bible story.

DRIVE CARS

Provide toy cars and several old road maps. Encourage the boys and girls to choose a map and drive a car along a road. Mention that Jesus rode a donkey into Jerusalem. Talk about the Bible story.

CLEAN UP

Play a song from the CD to signal cleanup time. Give each child a specific job to do.



Notes

- Clear contact plastic, scissors, tape, variety of nontoxic leaves
- Cut contact plastic into 12-inch squares.
- Make an allergy alert sign to post near the door to your room.

••	• •	•	٠	• •	•	• •	• •		•		٠	٠	٠	• •	٠	 ٠	 ٠	 •	• •	•	• •	•		•		٠	• •	•	• •		
••		•		 ••		 		 									 •		• •				• •		•		• •		• •		
••																															
••				 • •			 • •									 •	 •		• •						• •		••		• •		

LIFE VERSE

This is Jesus.

Matthew 21:11

EXTRA EASTER SESSION

Room

Your teaching partner(s)

Thank you for serving!

Hosanna!

Matthew 21:1-11,14-16

LIFE POINT

People should thank God for Jesus.

CHRIST FOCUS

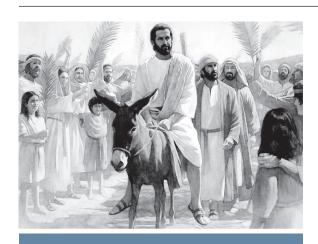
Jesus deserves our praise and worship.

LIFE VERSE

This is Jesus. Matthew 21:11

BIBLE FUN ACTIVITIES





SNACK

As the kids eat their snack, talk about how people cheer for famous people in parades. Comment that people praised Jesus as He rode into Jerusalem.

MOVE TO GROUP TIME

Instruct the children to get on their "donkeys" and ride them to the group-time area.

TALK ABOUT THE BIBLE STORY

 Jesus and His disciples were walking along the road to Jerusalem. When they came near a town, Jesus told His disciples, "Go into the town. You will find a donkey and its colt. Bring them to me."

- The two disciples brought the donkeys to Jesus. They spread their coats on the young donkey to make a soft place for Jesus to sit. Jesus climbed on the donkey. He began riding to Jerusalem.
- Along the way, people were waiting to see Jesus.
 Some people spread their coats on the road.
 Others cut branches from palm trees and spread them on the road. As Jesus passed by, the people praised Him. They shouted, "Hosanna! Hosanna!"
- When Jesus entered the city, people asked, "Who is this man?" The crowds said, "This is Jesus."
- When Jesus came to the temple, He healed people who were blind and people who could not walk. Children were in the temple, too.

 "Hosanna! Hosanna!" the children called to Jesus.
- Some men were upset when they saw the things Jesus did and heard the children praising Him. "Jesus," they asked, "do You hear those children?"
- "Yes," Jesus replied. "Haven't you read what the Bible says? God planned for children to praise Him." Jesus knew that the children were doing what God wanted them to do.

SING TOGETHER

Sing to the tune "Are You Sleeping?":

This is Jesus; this is Jesus;

People said; people said.

"Hosanna!" they praised Him;

"Hosanna!" they praised Him.

Children praised; children praised.

SAY THE LIFE VERSE

Point in your Bible to Matthew 21:11 and say the Life Verse "This is Jesus. Matthew 21:11." Ask the children to say it with you. Say the verse again, clapping on each word. Repeat and clap again. Remember to include the Scripture reference each time the children say the Life Verse.

PRAY

Ask for volunteers to pray, thanking God for Jesus.

BIBLE-LEARNING ACTIVITIES

At each activity, mention to the children that we thank God for Jesus.

- A. Make a palm tree. Print the Life Verse on a sheet of paper. Give each child a sheet of white paper, a strip of brown paper, and a sheet of green paper. Explain that the people spread palm leaves on the road in front of Jesus and these come from palm trees. Direct the kids to glue the strip of brown paper onto the white paper as a trunk. They can then tear the green paper into palm branches and glue it to the white paper.
- **B. Play with cars.** Use masking tape to make a few roads on the floor. Invite the boys and girls to drive the cars on the tape roads. Ask how the children came to church today. Talk about Jesus riding on a donkey. Remark that children thanked God for Jesus and we can thank God for Jesus. too.

- **C. Build a temple.** Using blocks, build a church together. Talk about what Jesus did at the temple and how the children thanked God for Jesus. Help the children recall some of the things they did today to thank God for Jesus.
- D. Play follow-the-leader. Walk around the room smiling and with arms raised in various "praising Jesus" positions; sometimes look grumpy with arms crossed or with hands on hips and a scowl. As the kids follow the leader, give encouragement such as "arms up everyone" and "let's all wave!" Stop periodically and ask the children which motions and expressions make them feel like they are praising Jesus. Allow the children to take turns being the leader.

CLEAN UP

Challenge the children to clean the room. Be available to assist in putting things away where they belong.

PLAY "TOSS AND TELL"

Ask the children to form a line. Toss a beanbag, ball, or wadded up paper to each child and ask, "What was your favorite activity today?" After a child answers, ask him to toss it back to you. Continue until everyone has a turn.

DISMISS

Give each child her artwork, activity page, and other belongings. Follow your church's dismissal policy.

Put the Verse in order

LIFE VERSE

This is Jesus.

-MATTHEW 21:11

Match the items from the story. Print the words below the matching items to put the verse in order.









Bible Figures





Bible Studies for Life, Spring 2014 © 2013 LifeWay. Printed in the United States of America. This item may be reproduced.

Instructions: Use these figures as directed in the Extra Easter Session.

People Welcomed Jesus



Bible Studies for Life, Spring 2014
© 2013 LifeWay. Printed in the United States of America.
This item may be reproduced.

Instructions: Use this Teaching Picture as directed in the Extra Easter Session.

This is Jesus.

Matthew 21:11

This is Jesus.

Matthew 21:11

This is Jesus.

Matthew 21:11

Inisis Jesus.

Matthew 21:11