



# Lesson 33

4s-K

## PALM SUNDAY

April 12 & 13

# JESUS IS KING



### LESSON GOAL:

**Background:** Palm Sunday is the day we celebrate when Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey while people waved palm branches and shouted "Hosanna!" a week before He was crucified. Jesus did this to share His claim to be their Messiah and King of Israel in fulfillment of the Old Testament prophecy.

**Lesson Goal:** For kids to celebrate the triumphal entry of our King, Jesus, while understanding the way He came to earth to die on the cross for our sins.

**Mark 11:1-11**

### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**City Serve (Saturday, May 3)**  
[woodmenvalley.org/acts](http://woodmenvalley.org/acts)

**Kids Camp (June 9-12)**  
[woodmenvalley.org/kidscamp](http://woodmenvalley.org/kidscamp)

**THEME FOR THIS SERIES:**  
**Archaeologist**

### KEY VERSE:



In the same way, **let your light shine so others can see it.** Then they will see the good things you do. And they will bring glory to your Father who is in heaven.

**Matthew 5:16 (NIRV)**

*shortened version for younger kids is in bold*

### MISSION FOCUS:

#### TEACHER APPRECIATION

Our teachers do so much for us—they help us learn, encourage us, and show us kindness. So, for the whole month of April, we want to show *them* how much we appreciate all they do for us.

Here's how you can be a part of it: First, think of a teacher in your life—maybe at school, here at church, or even your coach. Then, choose **one kind act** to show them appreciation—maybe a kind note, a picture or just saying 'Thank you for all you do!'

Most importantly, we're going to pray for our teachers, asking God to encourage them and give them wisdom, strength, and joy!



25  
min

## CHECK-IN

The goal of check-in is to greet parents/guardians and children by name and help them feel known and welcome.



**SAY:**

I'm so glad to see you today, **(insert child/parent name)**! You can play with the classroom activities until we begin Explore time.

20  
min

## EXPLORE

The goal of Explore is to help kids connect relationally and think about the Bible story. It should be completed in small groups of 5-7 kids per one Ministry Partner.



### DISCUSS: Jesus is King!

Help kids connect relationally and to the daily lesson by participating in the Bag of Wonder activity together.

**Bag of Wonder:** palm branch



**SAY:**

We are going to take turns passing around this Bag of Wonder! It has something inside that helps us think about our lesson today. You can hold it, smell it, shake it, touch it...but no peeking inside! What do you think it could be? You each get 1 guess!



**DO:**

Pass the Bag of Wonder around until each child has had a turn holding it and guessing what's in the bag. Offer hints to help the kids guess the item.



**SAY:**

I *wonder* why this item is in our Bag of Wonder today! Our lesson is about how **Jesus is King**. This true story comes from the Bible in **Mark 11:1-11!** (*Open your Bible to show the kids the verse is in the Bible then read the explanation below*).

**CONNECTION:** Today we are learning about when Jesus rode into Jerusalem, sharing his claim to be their Messiah. As He was riding in on a donkey, the people celebrated Him by waving palm branches and shouting "Hosanna!"



## CONNECT: Why Does It Matter?

Help kids prepare for the lesson by thinking through the Big 3 questions and how the lesson relates to them, personally.



### SAY:

**Let's answer THE BIG 3 questions for today's lesson & talk about how it applies to our lives!**

**1. Who is our story about today?**

Jesus

**2. What is the problem?**

People didn't know that Jesus was the King yet

**3. What will God do?**

Jesus entered Jerusalem on a donkey exactly how Jesus said he would many years before to show that He was the promised Savior

Encourage kids to think about why this matters and how they can apply it to their own life as they listen to the story!



## MAKE: Palm Branch Craft

Help kids think about the lesson further and have fun by doing this activity!

**Supplies:** brown popsicle stick, palm branch (small), God statement sticker, glue, markers/crayons



### DO:

Pass out one palm branch per child. Allow them to decorate it using the markers and crayons. Have kids glue a popsicle stick to the back of their palm branch and place the God Statement sticker on the front.



### SAY:

Jesus is King! Did you know when Jesus entered Jerusalem the people waved palm branches as He rode in on a donkey? Today we get to make our own palm branches. As we wave them, we can remember that Jesus is the true King and He came to earth to die for our sins.



## CLEAN UP: Transition to Large Group

Ask kids to clean up the activity or save it to finish for the end of class. Then, ask kids to line up and/or transition to Large Group.



## Craft Example



25  
min

# LARGE GROUP

The goal of Large Group is to help kids grow in their relationship with God by participating in Worship and hearing an engaging Bible story.



## EXPECTATIONS

As kids transition to Large Group time, play the expectations video.



## HOST MOMENT

After the Large Group expectations video is finished, the Host should welcome the kids in an engaging way and share the daily host content.



### SAY:

Welcome! We're so glad you're here today! Let's take a few minutes to look at our Missions project for the day and our Key Verse.

### MISSION FOCUS

Introduce or share an update about the current mission focus.

### KEY VERSE

Introduce the key verse then have the kids watch the Key Verse video.

### PRAY FOR WORSHIP & BIBLE LESSON



## WORSHIP

Invite your Worship Leader to come up and play the worship song videos. Encourage kids to participate and be respectful to others.

**SONG 1:** He is the Light

**SONG 2:** Bloom



## LESSON VIDEO

Play the daily Bible lesson video.



## WORSHIP RESPONSE

Lead the kids through a quiet time of responding to what God is teaching them.



## BLESSING

As Large Group ends, speak this blessing over the kids.

*May you know Jesus, your King, has come to save you from your sins! May you feel His love today!*



## TRANSITION

After the blessing, the Host should dismiss the kids to return quietly to their classroom (if applicable) and transition to Respond.

# WORSHIP RESPONSE



## REFLECT: Jesus is King!

Help kids reflect on the lesson by providing a quiet space for the Holy Spirit to work in their hearts as they think about how it applies to them personally.

### Worship Response Station

**Supplies:** “Happy Day” worship song in PowerPoint



#### SAY:

Just as God said it would happen many years before, Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey one Sunday. As He did, the people waved palm branches and shouted “Hosanna!” Jesus made it known that He is Messiah and King of Israel as He entered in this way. We celebrate Palm Sunday today because this triumphal entry was all part of God’s plan to send Jesus to the cross to die for our sins. Jesus is King!



#### DO:

- Ask the kids to quietly participate in the following activity. Say:
  - ***What did the people shout as Jesus entered Jerusalem?*** (Let kids respond.)
    - ***Hosanna! That word “Hosanna” means “Please save us!”***
    - ***Why would all those people be shouting “Please save us!” to Jesus? Because they knew He is the King! Jesus is the King who God sent to save us from our sins.***
  - ***Let’s take some time right now to praise and worship Jesus.***
    - ***As we sing this song, think about the truth that Jesus is YOUR King. We know what Jesus did on the cross, He died and rose again - saving us from our sins!***
  - ***Let’s praise God together for sending Jesus to be our King.***
    - Use the song in the PowerPoint and invite kids to stand and respond in worship.
- Close the time by praying over the kids.



## BLESSING

As Large Group ends, speak this blessing over the kids.



#### SAY:

*May you know Jesus, your King, has come to save you from your sins! May you feel His love today!*

15  
min

## RESPOND

The goal of Respond is for kids to think about the lesson and how it applies to them. It should be completed in small groups of 5-7 kids per one Ministry Partner.



### APPLY: Why Does it Matter?

Help kids process what they learned in the lesson by answering the Big 3 questions you asked at the beginning of class.



**SAY:**

**Let's answer THE BIG 3 questions for today's lesson & talk about how it applies to our lives!**

**1. Who was our story about today?**

Jesus

**2. What was the problem?**

People didn't know that Jesus was the King yet

**3. What did God do?**

Jesus entered Jerusalem on a donkey exactly how Jesus said he would many many years before to show that He was the promised Savior

**4. Why does this matter to me?**

Jesus did this to show that He is the king and Messiah  
- He came to save me from my sins!

**5. How can I apply this to my own life?**

Example: I can trust that Jesus came to save me; I can praise God anywhere and anytime for sending Jesus to save me



### PRAY: Connect Relationally

Help kids understand the power of praying together. Use the Prayer Tags from Check-In to write down prayer requests to take home and pray for during the week.



**SAY:**

Does anyone have a prayer request they'd like to share? You can also share with a leader privately, if you don't want to share aloud.



**DO:**

Invite kids to pray for each other, then the leader closes in prayer.

5  
min

## CHECK-OUT

The goal of check-out is to re-connect kids with their parent and communicate any upcoming events or announcements as families leave.



**DO:**

Encourage kids to finish their activities or play classroom games until their parent comes to pick them up.

As kids get picked up, mention any announcements while handing their parent the announcement card and the weekly **Lesson Card**.