



Lesson  
**31**

1st-4th

# PALM SUNDAY

March 28 & 29

**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 show everyone He is the Messiah and King of Israel in fulfillment of 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.

**Matthew 21:1-11**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

**Kids Camp Registration Opens**

*April 1*

**Easter Weekend**

*April 4/5*

**THEME FOR THIS SERIES:**  
True Word Channel



## KEY VERSE:

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

**John 14:6, NIRV**

## MISSION FOCUS:

### FEEDING FAMILIES

You can make a difference in the lives of individuals and families throughout El Paso County by bringing non-perishable food items to your campus.

Your non-perishable donations help Woodmen's ACTs team provide weekly food bags to over 300 local families at our partner schools. Donations are needed year-round.

**Let's see if we can fill the Feeding Family bins!**



5:45-6:10pm  
8:45-9:10am  
10:45-11:10am

## 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)*!

Grab today's **Lesson Card**. Look up the Bible passage in your own Bible or a classroom Bible and leave your card there as a bookmark. Then, you can play with the classroom activities until we begin Explore time.

6:10-6:25pm  
9:10-9:25am  
11:10-11:25am

## 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 by asking them about their week, then discuss the lesson topic for the day and read the Bible passage together.



### SAY:

Let's take turns sharing three words about our week. I'll go first!  
*Share your three words then invite the next child to share.*



### SAY:

Today, we are learning about how **Jesus is King**. This story comes from the Bible in **Matthew 21:1-11**. Can you open your Bible to the passage with me so we can read it together?



### DO:

Read the Bible passage aloud or pick a child to read it aloud.



## 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 was our story about today?**

Jesus, His disciples, and God's people

**2. What was the problem?**

God's people had waited a long time for the Great Rescuer, the Messiah and King, that was promised throughout the Old Testament

**3. What did God do?**

Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey to show everyone He is the Messiah and King of Israel to complete what the Old Testament prophecies said.

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 Leaf Craft

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

**Supplies:** Palm leaf, popsicle stick, God statement sticker, crayons/markers, glue/tape



### DO:

Have kids decorate their palm leaf using markers and crayons. Then have them attach the popsicle stick to the bottom of the palm leaf and add the God Statement Sticker to the craft.



### SAY:

Jesus is king! Today is Palm Sunday! We are going to learn about how people laid down palm branches to make a path for Jesus. We get to make our own palm branches too!



## 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



6:25-6:50pm  
9:25-9:50am  
11:25-11:50am

# 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:** The Way

**SONG 2:** He is the Light



## 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.



## PRAYER

Help create a smooth transition from Worship Response by praying over the kids.



## OFFERING

Highlight the opportunity to give back to God through our offering.



## BLESSING

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

# 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:** crown cards, writing utensils



#### SAY:

Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey. This wasn't just random, but it was a very intentional way God showed everyone that Jesus is the Messiah and King of Israel, just like the Old Testament had said. Jesus is our king too, and He came to rescue us from our sins by dying on a cross!



#### DO:

- Ask the kids to quietly participate in the following activity. Say:
  - ***Jesus is King! The people all shouted "Hosanna!" as Jesus rode into Jerusalem. The word "Hosanna" means "save us!"***
    - ***Jesus came to rescue us from our sins and be our King forever! He did this all because He loves us SO much.***
  - ***Let's do an activity to help us remember that Jesus is our king who came to rescue us.***
    - Pass out 1 crown card and writing utensil to each kid.
    - ***On your card, write/draw what you need Jesus to rescue you from. Then, place the crown card at the foot of the cross as a reminder that Jesus is the king who came to save you.***
  - Allow kids to respond individually for a few minutes. Once everyone has finished, say: ***Jesus is your king and He loves you!***
- Close the time by praying over the kids.



## PRAY

Help create a smooth transition from Worship Response by praying over the kids.



## OFFERING

Highlight the opportunity to give back to God through our offering.



#### SAY:

*God gives to us...so we give back to God! Offering is an opportunity every week to give some of our money to God as a way to say "Thank you, God!" for all He has done for us.*



## BLESSING

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



#### SAY:

*May you believe that Jesus is YOUR king who came to rescue you because He loves you!*

6:50-7:10pm  
9:50-10:10am  
11:50am-12:10pm

# 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, His disciples, and God's people

**2. What was the problem?**

God's people had waited a long time for the Great Rescuer, the Messiah and King, that was promised throughout the Old Testament

**3. What did God do?**

Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey to show everyone He is the Messiah and King of Israel to complete what the Old Testament prophecies said.

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

Jesus isn't just the king of Israel, He is my king too because He came to rescue me from my sins by dying on the cross.

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

Example: I can praise Jesus for being my king and rescuer; I can tell others the good news that Jesus is king!



## 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.

As parents  
arrive after  
service

# 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 them the announcement card and ensuring they take their weekly **Lesson Card**.