

# JESUS ENTERED JERUSALEM



## TRANSITION/GROUP TIME

### SNACK

Include the kids in the distribution of the snack. Ask for one or more volunteers to pray. Lead the boys and girls to clean up after the snack. Thank them for their help.

### MOVE TO GROUP TIME

Encourage the preschoolers to move in a line to the group-time area. Guide them to say: “Hosanna!” Comment that *hosanna* was a word people used when they praised Jesus as He came into Jerusalem.

### INTRODUCE THE BIBLE STORY

**JESUS ENTERED JERUSALEM—BASED ON MATTHEW 21:1-11; MARK 11:1-11**

- Ask the children to name ways they celebrate people. Mention that today’s Bible story is about a time when people celebrated Jesus. Open a Bible to Matthew 21. Tell the Bible story.

### SUMMARIZE THE BIBLE STORY

- Jesus and His disciples (helpers) were on their way to Jerusalem.
- Jesus sent two disciples to the next village to find a donkey and colt.
- The disciples brought the donkeys to Jesus. They laid their coats on the donkey’s back. Jesus rode the donkey into Jerusalem.
- People spread their coats and leafy branches on the road.
- As Jesus rode by, the people shouted, “Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.”
- Some people asked who this man was. Jesus’ followers said, “This is Jesus from Nazareth.”

### REVIEW THE BIBLE STORY

- What did Jesus send two disciples to do?
- What did Jesus ride on as He went into Jerusalem?
- What did the people lay on the road?
- What did the people shout as Jesus rode by?

### EMPHASIZE THE LIFE POINT

- Comment that God sent Jesus because He loves us.

ROOM
YOUR TEACHING PARTNERS
DATE OF USE

### LEVEL OF BIBLICAL LEARNING

Jesus is God’s Son.

### LIFE POINT

God sent Jesus because He loves us.

### UNIT VERSE

God sent Jesus to teach the good news. Luke 4:18

### WEEKLY VERSE

Hosanna! We praise Jesus!  
Mark 11:9

## SING TOGETHER

Sing to the tune of “Mary Had a Little Lamb”:

*Jesus came to Jerusalem, Jerusalem, Jerusalem.  
Jesus came to Jerusalem. He rode in on a donkey.*

## SAY THE BIBLE VERSE

Open a Bible to Mark 11:9. Read the verse aloud. Invite the kids to repeat the verse using different voices—loud, quiet, singing, robot, high-pitched, and deep. Mention that when Jesus entered Jerusalem, people shouted, “Hosanna.”

## PRAY

Guide the preschoolers to share prayer requests if they have any. Invite several boys and girls to pray aloud if they would like. Encourage them to thank God for loving us and sending Jesus for us.

## BIBLE-LEARNING ACTIVITIES

**Emphasize: God sent Jesus because He loves us.**

- 1. Decorate coats.** Draw a simple Bible times robe outline on a sheet of white paper. Make copies, one per child. Provide markers, crayons, and stickers for the children to decorate their coats. Briefly review the Bible story, reminding the kids that when Jesus rode through Jerusalem on a donkey, people put their coats and leafy tree branches on the road. Invite the preschoolers to lay their papers down in a row after they finish decorating them.
- 2. Praise with music.** Give each child a toy instrument or a streamer to wave. Play worship music and lead the boys and girls to walk around the room as they sing and play instruments. Stop the music periodically. Encourage the children to shout: “Hosanna!” Then restart the music again. Allow the kids to switch instruments and streamers throughout the praise time to enjoy different experiences with different instruments. Say that when Jesus entered Jerusalem, many people rejoiced.
- 3. Choose a card.** Give each child a square of red construction paper and a square of green construction paper. Mention that in this game, green will mean yes, and red will mean *no*. Name different things that happened in today’s

Bible story and things that did not happen in the story. Guide the preschoolers to raise the green card if it happened in the story and the red card if it did not happen in the story.

- 4. Make animal sounds.** Gather the boys and girls in a circle on the floor. Remind the children that Jesus rode a donkey into Jerusalem. Name different animals. Invite the children to stand up and make the noise of the animal named if it is an animal you can ride. If it is not an animal you can ride, lead the children to stay seated and quiet. Use some of the following animals: horse, monkey, donkey, cat, tiger, turtle, camel, duck, and dolphin.

## CLEAN UP

Set a timer and lead the children to clean up their activities in the given amount of time. Reset the timer if needed. Thank them for working together and following directions.

## LISTEN AND RESPOND

Briefly retell the Bible story. Mention that Jesus rode on a donkey, the people laid coats and branches on the road, and people shouted, “Hosanna!” Lead the kids to play a game where they respond to the word you say. If you say “donkey,” they will get down on their hands and knees and make a donkey sound. If you say “coats and branches,” they will pretend to lay coats and branches on the ground. If you say “hosanna,” they will all raise their hands and shout: “Hosanna!” Play music and encourage the preschoolers to move around the room. Stop the music and shout one of the words. Guide the boys and girls to respond with the appropriate action. Start the music and encourage the children to begin moving again. Continue playing as time allows.

## DISMISS

Help the kids gather their papers and belongings. Thank them for coming. Remind the parents to review the Bible story on the Kids Activity Page.