

JESUS THE KING

(Matthew 21:1-11, Mark 11:1-11, Luke 19:29-44 and John 12:12-19)

I wonder why so many people wanted to see Jesus ride the donkey into the city?
I wonder how the people knew that Jesus is King?
I wonder what we can do today to show that Jesus is King?
I wonder what Jesus was thinking as he listened to the people shout Hosanna?
I wonder what it was like to see the carpet of cloaks and palm branches lining the road?
I wonder how you would welcome Jesus into our city? What words of welcome would you shout?

PRESCHOOL RESPONSE ACTIVITIES

Cuttin' Up

Cut a large leaf out of paper. Decorate your leaf with anything green, such as torn paper, tissue paper squares, glitter or crayons and markers.

Make several leaves for your family. When everything is dry, use the leaves to act out the story as a family. Drape towels and scarves around you as simple costumes and let one person be Jesus. Lay the towels and scarves on the ground and wave your palm branches in praise to Jesus. Shout "Hosanna! Praise God!"

Praise Mural

What You Need: A large piece of art paper with the word "Hosanna" written in the middle in large block letters; bits of colored tissue paper, bits of colored cellophane, ribbon pieces, and/or large sequins; glue sticks; crayons with the paper removed; assorted colored streamers; tape; and palm leaves.

What You Do: Assist children in gluing whatever items you have provided inside the letters spelling "Hosanna." Show children how to place the palm leaves underneath the edges of the art paper. Guide them to lay a bare crayon on its side and gently rub the crayon over the paper that's covering the leaves to make palm leaf rubbings. Twist two or three streamers together and tape them around the edges of the mural. Encourage the kids to be creative as they make this praise mural. Post the mural in your classroom or in a hallway so parents can see it.

Hosanna! Hosanna!

The people celebrated Jesus' arrival in Jerusalem with a parade long ago. Create your own parade at home. Play praise music loud and march around the living room yelling, "Hosanna! Hosanna!" Or, get out the old pots and wooden spoons to create your own music. Get the whole family involved and let everyone take turns leading the parade. When the parade is over, pray and thank Jesus for coming and for loving us.

ELEMENTARY RESPONSE ACTIVITIES

Praise Palms

As Jesus entered Jerusalem, the people shouted, "Hosanna, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord." Think about the words you would use to welcome Jesus if he were coming into Abilene. What would you shout out to Jesus?

Have each person in your family make a palm leaf and write your words or phrases on the leaf, then put them up in your house where you can see them this week.

Spell it Out!

Use letter tiles from a Bananagram or Scrabble game to spell out the following verse:

Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! - Mark 11:9

Write your Own Psalm of Praise and Thanksgiving

Read Psalm 118. The words of this psalm (118:25-26) are echoed by the crowds in Jerusalem as they shouted "Hosanna" when Jesus entered the city.

Using the prompts below, have your family write a Psalm together.

Lord God, you are...

I bless your holy name because...

Even though there is much trouble or pain around me, I...

I have seen your power and help in former times when...

I want to always...

Thank you, Lord God Almighty for...

I know you are...

And worthy to be praised.

Suzetta would love to read your Psalms, so email them to suzetta@highlandchurch.org.