

Palm Sunday

Matthew 21:1-11

Grades 4,5

Large Group	(Where we all meet together and introduce the lesson)
Materials needed - animals that Jesus rode in on sheets, 6 envelopes, 1 large dice,	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Greet all the kids as they come in. Ask them how they are doing, and chat with them about their week. Pray together, ask anyone if they have any prayer requests.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Our memory verse for the month is Psalm 55:22. Play this video while singing along, or have a little dance party. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XZwSL4Y3tQk	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- perform a bit of a magic trick with the kids (I got it from here https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oP51nVSrKls). Choose six kids to come to the front in a line and give them each an envelope with a possible animal that Jesus rode into Jerusalem on - make sure that the donkey envelope with the third kid. Ask another kid to roll a dice. (If you get the number one or two, count over to the kid with the donkey picture by spelling out the word O-N-E, if you get the number three count to three, if you get four count in starting at the other end of the line, and if you get five spell out F-I-V-E from the other side of the line) Hold the kid who has been picked back and show all the other pictures first, then show the donkey picture last.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Let's watch these video together - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z-39h0xYqdE	

Stay in the large group to review the story

Review The Story	(a chance to review the bible passage with the small group)
Materials needed - donkey or rocking horse, rope, palm branches, play house or room	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Act out the story with the kids. Set out a play house with a stuffed donkey (rocking horse, or person in a donkey costume waiting outside).- Pick a small kid to be Jesus, and pick two others to be disciples. Prompt Jesus to tell the disciples to get the donkey. Sit "Jesus" on top of the donkey.- Line all the other kids up as if they are on the side of the road, get them to lay down their sweaters, and palm branches as Jesus moves along the road.- For extra fun, encourage the kids who are on the side of the road to chant Jesus name as loud as they can.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Divide the kids into mixed aged teams. Explain to them that Jesus didn't touch the ground as he was entering Jerusalem.- They need to as a group get from one side of the room to the other without touching the ground. They can use, pieces of their clothing (not their shoes or socks), or pieces of paper to get across.- Have each team start at the same time and make it a fun contest.	

Break up into small groups

Life Application (an opportunity for kids to apply the lesson to their own lives)

Materials needed - Mural paper and markers

- Greet everyone in your small group, make sure everyone knows each others names. Say a prayer together either by repeating after one of the teachers or just letting them pray.

- Ask the kids how they treat someone who is very important or how would they treat a king? Would they shout praises, and lay down their coats when they entered into the room or into their city?
- Get out some mural paper and some markers - let the kids write out a big plan on how to treat a king if they walked into church.

- Have a discussion with the kids. What can we do in our daily lives to treat Jesus as King? The people when they were welcoming Jesus laid down their clothes, and shouted and came to see him. Maybe we could do something like that, we could give him the best of what we have, we could talk to him and we could spend time with him.

Memory Verse (a way to introduce and reinforce this months memory verse)

Materials needed - memory verse sheets

- Tape the memory verse sheets on each of the kids backs. Then let them work together to get themselves into order.
- Go through the memory verse many time asking each kid to say the part that is written on their back.