



LEADER GUIDE

1 - 3 YEAR OLDS

LESSON

1

BIG MESSAGE 'LIVE' OUTLINE

BIG POINT

Jesus our King

Scripture References:

Zechariah 9:9, Matthew 1:21, Matthew 21:1-11,
John 12:12-19

TEACHING POINTS

- Jesus is our King
- Jesus is the name above all other names

TRANSITION

If you can hear me, spin around

If you can see me, sit right down

Hands in laps, you're doing great

It's Big Message time so sit up straight.

INTRODUCTION

When I count to three, everyone say their name aloud. 1, 2, 3... (children say their name).

Who decided what your name would be? Was it your parents or someone special in your life? In the Bible we read that an angel told Mary and Joseph that they should call the baby Jesus. Matthew 1:21 (NIV), "She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

Jesus' name is special, because of who Jesus is! Jesus is our King. Jesus is a different kind of king than what you may be thinking of. Jesus didn't wear a big shiny gold crown or sit on a plush throne telling people what to do. Jesus our King is more powerful than any earthly king. His name is higher and more powerful than the most important people you can think of. Today we'll learn more about Jesus our King.



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STORYTELLING

Jesus Enters Jerusalem

Supplies needed:

- Story picture from supplied files

Jesus and His disciples were on their way to Jerusalem to celebrate the yearly Passover. Crowds of people had been following Jesus and listening to His teaching. They had even seen Jesus heal people of all kinds of sickness.

As Jesus and the disciples were approaching Jerusalem they stopped in a town called Bethpage on the Mount of Olives. Jesus called two of His disciples over, saying, "Go into the village ahead, there you'll find a donkey. She'll be tied up with her young colt next to her. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone asks what you're doing tell them The Lord needs them and the owner will send them with you."

Jesus would enter Jerusalem as King, just as the Prophet Zechariah had written,

"Say to the city of Zion,

'See, your king comes to you.

He is gentle and riding on a donkey.

He is riding on a donkey's colt.' "

The disciples got to the village and just as Jesus had said, there was a donkey tied up with her colt, they led them to Jesus and laid their coats on the colt's back for Jesus to sit on.

As Jesus rode into Jerusalem, the large crowd of people gathered spread their coats on the ground and some laid down palm branches, a sign of royal honour for Jesus our King. People waved branches in the air shouting, "Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest heaven, blessed is the King of Israel". The sound of praise erupted as Jesus passed by, some ran ahead dancing and singing and others followed behind waving their branches. Praising the King of kings, Jesus, the name above all names.

This began the week leading up to Jesus' death and resurrection. Jesus our King, Christ and Saviour. Christians the world over celebrate like the people of Jerusalem did on that first Palm Sunday, giving honour to Jesus our King.



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WRAP UP

Supplies needed:

- Palm branch
- Coat

In Bible times, when a king rode into town on their horse they would be welcomed with cheering crowds. But Jesus didn't come on a horse. When Jesus entered Jerusalem He was riding a donkey. People showed honour to King Jesus by waving palm branches and laying their coats on the ground before Him. They were not cheering like they would cheer for any other king, they were worshipping King Jesus.

John 12:13 (NIV), "So they took branches from palm trees and went out to meet him. They shouted, "Hosanna! "

"Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!"

"Blessed is the king of Israel!"

When we worship King Jesus we sing, dance and lift our hands high. When you see a room full of people worshipping Jesus with their arms stretched high, imagine it's just like the road into Jerusalem full of people waving branches to honour our King Jesus. What a beautiful name it is!

PRAYER

Dear God,

This Easter, help us to show honour to Jesus our King in everything we do. We want to worship Jesus whose name is above all other names.

In Jesus' name, Amen