

# EASTER

## *A Look at Palm Sunday*



## Palm Sunday

Jesus and his disciples arrive in Jerusalem to celebrate Passover and huge crowds of people gather to greet them. As Jesus rides through the crowds on a donkey, it's like a big parade!

Have you ever been to or seen a parade? What was it like? It might have been an Easter parade, or Christmas parade, a parade for school or another special occasion. What was it like? Often there are lots of people gathered around, lining the streets. Often they dress up or wear special clothes, and there is always lots and lots of cheering!

**EXPERIENCE THE STORY OF PALM SUNDAY, EXPLORE HOW JESUS CAME TO BRING PEACE, A HUMBLE KING WHO WAS HONOURED AND PRAISED BY PEOPLE.**

**MATTHEW 21: 1-11**

**THEN THOSE WHO WENT AHEAD AND THOSE WHO FOLLOWED WERE SHOUTING, "HOSANNA! BLESSED IS THE ONE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD!"**

**MARK 11:9**

- **THIS PARENT GUIDE**
- **BIBLE**
- **RIGHTNOW MEDIA VIDEO**
- **PRINT OUT ACTIVITY SHEETS**
- **SCISSORS**
- **CRAYONS, PENCILS & MARKERS**
- **CLEAR TAPE**
- **STRAWS OR POPSTICKS**
- **OPTIONAL: STICKERS, COLOURED PAPER, YARN & OTHER DECORATIONS**

# Story at a Glance

## JESUS

- Enters holy city of Jerusalem in triumph for the Passover festival.
- Roman and Jewish leaders can't ignore him after this show of popularity.
- Says that "the stones would shout out" if the Pharisees silenced the crowds (Luke 19:40).



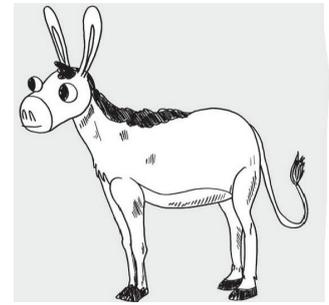
## COATS AND PALM BRANCHES

- Crowds cut leafy branches from their fields and put them in front of Jesus' donkey.
- Cloaks on a path were a sign of honor for a new king (2 Kings 9:13).



## THE DONKEY

- Symbol that Jesus comes in peace. A conqueror would ride a horse.
- Fulfills prophecy that Jerusalem would rejoice when a humble king came riding on a donkey (Zechariah 9:9).
- Also called a colt, another name for a young, male donkey.
- Never been ridden before.
- Jesus knows exactly where the disciples can find it for him.



## THE CROWDS

- Greet Jesus like a king, praising him for his miracles.
- Quote the words of a psalm to welcome Jesus (Psalm 118:26).
- Echo words the angels said to the shepherds on the night Jesus was born (Luke 2:14; 19:38).



# Intro

1. Jesus travels into the city of Jerusalem on Palm Sunday ready for the Passover festival.
2. His disciples help him get ready by bringing a donkey that has never been ridden.
3. People along the way wave and cheer, "Hosanna," which means "Hooray! Praise God! Our Savior has come!"
4. They spread big, leafy branches and coats on the path to prepare for Jesus.
5. They are surprised their new leader is riding a donkey. Why? because mighty rulers come into cities riding horses, not a humble little donkey! Coming on a donkey was Jesus' way of saying "I come in peace."

# Watch

Check out the Holy Moly Easter Collection video "Jesus Enters Jerusalem."  
<https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Content/KidsSeries/218363?episode=1>

Watch for when colour appears in the video. Who is black and white? Who is coloured in? Pay attention to when this changes!

# Relate

- How did the disciples help Jesus get ready to go to Jerusalem?
- What did people do and say when Jesus passed by on the donkey?
- What would you do and say if Jesus passed by?
- What does the word "hosanna" mean?
- Why do you think people were cheering for Jesus?
- Where did you see colour in the video?  
How was God at work in those moments?
- How do you celebrate when something exciting happens?
- If we had a parade to celebrate Jesus, who would be there? What floats or displays would be in it? What cheers would people say?
- How can we be ready to help Jesus on Palm Sunday?
- I wonder how we can help Jesus every day.

# Prayer

Dear God,

We are ready to help Jesus with what is coming down the road. We are ready to share your love with our friends and families. We are ready to cheer for Jesus every day. Hosanna!

Amen!