



**Kids**  
**Ministry**  
Activity packs  
**Senior**  
**Primary**  
Palm Sunday



*But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.  
- 2 Timothy 3:14-15*

Dear Parents/Carers,

This week children will be starting the journey from Palm Sunday to Easter morning known as Holy Week. Throughout this week family devotions will be sent to you for, Passover and Good Friday. Then on Easter Day there will be another full activity pack for Family Worship.

Today's session will be focusing on Jesus arriving in Jerusalem welcomed as king! What a radical transformation to be welcomed as a king to then be trialled and killed as a criminal, only to then be raised back to life in victory.

If you have children in more than one age group, can I please encourage you to pick one program that you feel works best for all your children's ages and complete that together as a family.

I would love to see any photos of the dioramas that you and your children will construct over the next week. With your permission it would be fantastic to be able to include a photo in our bulletin showing what the children are doing.

Blessings,  
Jess

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**Topic:** Palm Sunday – Jesus welcomed as a king  
**Sessions Aim:** Children start the journey of Holy Week. Learning that Jesus was warmly welcomed as king to only later be charged as a criminal.  
**Bible Passage:** Matthew 21:1-11

### **A Time of Prayer**

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Come together in a time of prayer with your children. Everyone can share something they would like to pray for or share a God Story. These are stories of

where we have been able to see God at work in our lives or each other's lives during this week.

Dear God,  
As we start this Holy Week  
And gather together in your presence,  
Please help us turn our hearts again to Jerusalem,  
To the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ,  
That one day we too will enter triumphally into your city not made by humans,  
The eternal city in heaven,  
Where you and the Holy Spirit and Christ live in glory for ever.  
Amen

### **Worship Songs**

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Please spend some time listening and singing to your family's favourite worship songs. This may have already been done in the worship period of Oaktree's service.

### **Play King of the Hill**

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Supplies: rope, two boxes or objects to stand on.

1: You will need two objects that you can stand on (eg. Large stone or brick, a strong box). Place the objects one metre apart. You stand on one and your child stands on the other and you both hold an end of the rope or cord.

2: The first one to pull the other off their block is the king of the hill. Other members of your family can then take it in turn to challenge the 'king'. If someone succeeds in pulling the king off their block they become the new king.

3: Once you have played this for a little while, ask the reigning king, how a king should be treated? What would they have their subjects do?  
The winner of the game or the 'king' may be given the best chair in the house and the other may need to bring them a drink and a snack.

4: Ask your children about Jesus being welcomed into Jerusalem as a king?  
How did the people welcome Him?  
What did they say?

### **Welcomed as a King**

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1: Have your children find Matthew 21 in their Bibles. Encourage them to use the contents page to help them learn their way around their Bibles.  
Either you or one of your children pray for God's Spirit to be at work in our hearts revealing His meaning.

You or your children reads Matthew 21:1-11.

2: To encourage children to look more deeply into the passage ask them the following questions. It is good to ask these sorts of questions every time you read from the Bible.

- What's one thing that stood out to them or surprised them?
  - Why?
- Are there any repeated words or phrases?
  - If yes, why do they think that might be important?
- Is there anywhere else in the Bible where we read similar things?
- What happens in the rest of the book you are reading?
- Are there any big Biblical themes in this passage?
- Are there any words you don't know the meaning of?
  - Look up what Hosanna means

This process can be made easy by having a printed version of the passage in order to write notes and highlight key phrases. If you don't have access to a printer you can also copy the passage into a word document. Bible Gateway is a great place to electronically find passages, <https://www.biblegateway.com>

### 3: Fulfillment of Scripture

Ask your children why they think the Father sent Jesus?

- To die for our sins so that we may have forgiveness and eternal life
- To fulfil what is written in the Old Testament and
- To bring about the New Covenant

Throughout the Old Testament the prophets spoke of a New Covenant which would be greater than and replace the old. The Jew's believed Jesus to be the warrior king that had been promised to their ancestors, someone who would destroy their enemies and restore Israel.

They were so excited that they were shouting Hosanna which means save. They were shouting praises to Jesus as the one who had come to save them.

Look up Zechariah 9:9. This is the prophecy that they were seeing fulfilled when Jesus rode into Jerusalem.

### 4: Welcomed as a King

Ask your children how the people welcomed Jesus as a king?

- Spread their cloaks on the road
- Cut branches and placed them on the road

Talk with your kids about how this was short lived. Everyone was so excited for their warrior king but were so disappointed when they saw what Jesus was actually teaching. Today on Sunday we remember Jesus being welcomed as king but what happens this Friday? We remember Jesus being crucified as a criminal. What a drastic change.

But Jesus is our king now. The bible tells us that one day Jesus will come back again as our king and judge. This time we won't turn on Jesus we will celebrate him as our eternal king. *"That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."* Philippians 2:10-11.

Pray for Jesus to return and celebrate Him as king of our life.

### **Holy Week Diorama**

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1: During the coming week there are a number of important Christian celebrations (today Palm Sunday, on Thursday we have the Passover, Good Friday and Easter Day). During the week you and your family will be creating a diorama depicting these events. For each of these days there will be a devotion sent out to families to complete (shorter for Thursday and Friday and then a full worship on Sunday).

Today being Palm Sunday create a path with a donkey walking along with Jesus on its back. Create little cloaks and palm branches to lay on the path.

Then on Thursday create a little Passover meal, Friday the three crosses on a hill, and then finish on Sunday with the glorious empty tomb!

2: You will need to be creative as you may be limited in what you have at home. For example, I didn't have a donkey but instead used a little dinosaur.

As your family does the devotion on each of these days the diorama will be a good visual of this week and a reminder in the home for your children of the entire story.



## **Prayer for our World**

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1: To finish your time together, ask your children what they would like to be talking to God about at the moment or what they are feeling and spend time praying for these.

As we celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus please be praying for more people to come to know Jesus.