



## WEEK TWO – APRIL 2019 – SECOND/THIRD

**Bible Story:** *This I Promise You* ▪ John 12:9–16

**Bottom Line:** *Whatever happens, remember God keeps His promises.*

**Memory Verse:** *“In this world, you will have trouble. But be encouraged! I have won the battle over the world.” – John 16:33b NIV*

**Life App:** *Hope – Believing that something good can come out of something bad*

**Basic Truth:** *I can trust God no matter what.*

**Summary:** Next, we head to an incredible moment John records in John 12:9–16. God’s people had waited for generations for God to send the Messiah. They were overwhelmed when Jesus made His triumphal entry into Jerusalem. God kept His promise. The mission to save the world was happening. This didn’t go exactly how they expected, but God was up to something bigger than they could imagine!

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**8:50–9:00 | 10:20–10:30 | 11:50–12:00 – EARLY ARRIVERS ACTIVITIES**

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## **1. Early Arriver Idea**

*Create: an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing*

**What You Need:** Paper; markers

### **What You Do:**

- Invite kids to place their offerings in the *For Everyone* box on the wall near the main entrance
- Encourage kids to draw pictures of things they are excited about. It could be something they're looking forward to about celebrating Easter, something they're going to do over the summer, or something as simple as an upcoming fun activity at school.

## **2. Made to Worship**

*Create: an activity that explores spiritual ideas through the process of drawing, building, and designing*

**What You Need:** Green construction paper, prepared “Palm Templates” Activity Page, markers, scissors, craft sticks, glue sticks, masking tape

### **What You Do:**

- Show kids how to place a template on a piece of construction paper, trace it, and cut it out.
- Encourage kids to do their best, but reassure them that it's okay if their tracing and cutting isn't perfect. Tell them they can even cut fringes along the edges!
- Lead kids to glue a craft stick “branch” to the end of each frond to make a “handle.” Be prepared to use masking tape if glue sticks won't hold.
- Guide kids to work together to make as many palm fronds as time allows.
  - *NOTE: Kids will use these to help dramatize the story during Groups.*

### **What You Say:**

*“What do your cut-outs remind you of? (Pause.) Yes, giant leaves! In fact, they're palm leaves. Do you know what palm leaves are called? (Pause.) Yes, palm fronds. **[Transition]** In today's story, you'll hear about a crowd of people who used palm fronds for something very important. Let's go learn more.”*

*Lead your group to the Large Group area.*

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9:10–9:45 | 10:40–11:15 | 12:10–12:45 – LARGE GROUP

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## OVERVIEW:

**Bottom Line:** *Whatever happens, remember God keeps His promises. Because God keeps His promises, we can trust Him no matter what. Kids will face moments in their life where they might wonder if God will come through for them. We want kids to understand that God will come through. It might not be as they expected, but they can have hope that God will help them through their situation.*

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9:45–10:05 | 11:15–11:35 | 12:45–1:05 SMALL GROUP

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## 1. In My Mind’s Eye

### [Bible Story Review]

*Imagine: an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates biblical application through reenactment*

**What You Need:** Markers; dry erase board

### What You Do:

- Ask kids to pair up.
- Tell kids that one will be the artist and one will be describing something to draw.
- Pass out markers and a dry erase board to the artists.
- Instruct the “describing” person to imagine the coolest house, car, or robot they can possibly think of.
- Tell the artists to draw what their partner describes as best they can, without letting their partner see it.
- When the picture is finished, have them reveal it to their partner and see if it looks anything like what they were imagining.
- Switch roles and repeat.

### What You Say:

*“The people in our story today were waiting for a king for a very long time. They had a picture in their minds of what they thought the king would be like—what he would look like and what he would do. When Jesus came, He wasn’t necessarily what they had imagined. **[Make It Personal]** (Talk about a time when something didn’t turn out the way you imagined it would.) When the people actually met Jesus and He wasn’t what they expected, that didn’t make Him any less of a king. God had promised to send a king, and **[Bottom Line]** whatever happens, remember God keeps His promises.”*

## 2. Palm Verses

### [Memory Verse Activity]

*Connect: an activity that invites kids to share with others and build on their understanding*

**What You Need:** Palm fronds from earlier, markers

#### What You Do:

- Let them write out the memory verse on their cutout.
- Pair kids up and encourage them to practice the verse together.

#### What You Say:

*“This verse reminds us that the Lord has already won the battle against the world. We don’t need to worry that God won’t do what He says He will, because **[Bottom Line] whatever happens, remember God keeps His promises.** Take these palms home this week and stick them in a potted plant so you can remember our verse whenever you see it.”*

## 3. Pray and Dismiss

### [Prayer Activity]

*Reflect: an activity that creates space for personal understanding and application*

**What You Need:** Completed palm fronds from earlier activity

#### What You Do:

- Split kids into two groups.
- Guide the groups to line up facing each other (as if they were lining the streets of a parade).
- Invite kids to wave their palm leaves as you pray together.

#### What You Say:

*“Lord, thank You for always keeping Your promises to us. You came to Earth to show us how to live, just as You promised You would, and You left us with Your Holy Spirit to guide us. Your Word promises that You will come again one day, and we know that You will because You always keep Your promises.”*

***As adults arrive to pick up, have kids show parents the palm leaves they made and tell them why they made palm leaves.***

