



WEEK 1 -April 2020 - PRESCHOOL

Bible Story Focus: We celebrate Jesus because He is special.

Palm Sunday • *Matthew 21:1-11, 15-16*

Memory Verse: "I am alive for ever and ever!" Revelation 1:18, NIV

Key Question: Who is alive?

Bottom Line: Jesus is alive.

Basic Truth: Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

Make it True

Captivate kids with a bible story and help them understand how it connects to their world.

-Large group time

9:25-9:45 | 10:55-11:15 | 12:25-12:45 - MAKE IT TRUE

LARGE GROUP SCRIPT:

Bible Story

What You Need: A Bible and a large palm branch

(Optional: "Palm Leaf" Activity Page, cardstock, and scissors.)

(NOTE: If you do not use the palm leaf cutouts, the children will wave their hands in the air.)

Optional Story Images can be found in the Large Group Images folder. (02_LG35_Stage_Images) They can be used in conjunction with this script.

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Make a copy of "Palm Leaf" on cardstock for each child. Pre-cut the palm leaves before Large Group.

During the Activity: Hand a "Palm Leaf" to each child as they enter Large Group.

What You Say:

STORYTELLER: "Hello, everybody! I'm [your name]! And this is my palm branch.

(Hold up a large palm branch and then notice that the children have palm branches, too.)

STORYTELLER: "Wait a minute. Do you have palm branches, too? *(Get excited.)* If you have a palm branch, hold it up in the air and wave it so I can see it.

(Wave your branch while looking at the children waving their palm branches.)

"Cool! You can use your palm branches to help me tell today's Bible story. Put your palm branch in your lap for now, and I'll tell you when to wave it.

“This is the Bible.

(Hold up the Bible, open it, and lay it aside.)

“Our story today comes from the Bible. It’s about a special day we call Palm Sunday.

“Palm Sunday started in a town called Jerusalem. But before it was Palm Sunday, it was like any other Sunday. The people in Jerusalem were all going about their normal day until someone said, ‘Hey! Jesus is coming!’

(Option: Story Image W1 01)

“Well, that changed everything! They were so excited! The people had heard about Jesus and that He could do anything.

“They heard that Jesus could make a storm stop by just saying, ‘Stop!’

“Wave your palm branches with me and say, ‘Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus!’”

CHILDREN and STORYTELLER: “Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus!”

STORYTELLER: “They heard that Jesus could make sick people all better.

“Wave your palm branches with me and say, ‘Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus!’”

CHILDREN and STORYTELLER: “Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus!”

STORYTELLER: “They heard that Jesus could feed A LOT of people with only a little bit of food.

“Wave your palm branches with me and say, ‘Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus!’”

CHILDREN and STORYTELLER: “Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus!”

STORYTELLER: “Jesus is so special! And if He was coming to town, then the people needed to do something special to celebrate Him.

(Option: Story Image W1 02)

“So guess what they did! *(Pause.)* The people cut palm branches from trees and laid them on the road. Other people took their coats off and laid them on the road. The palm branches and coats made a special road for the donkey that Jesus was riding on.

“And then . . . *(pause dramatically)*, THEY SAW JESUS! *(Wave palm branch.)*

(Option: Story Image W1 03)

“They were so excited to see Jesus that they began waving palm branches in the air and shouting, ‘Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus!’

“Wave your palm branches with me and say, ‘Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus!’”

CHILDREN and STORYTELLER: “Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus! Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus! Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus!”

STORYTELLER: “The people were celebrating Jesus because they knew He was special. And we still celebrate Jesus on Palm Sunday because **[Bottom Line] Jesus is alive** and He wants to be our friend forever! So when I ask you, ‘**Who is alive?**’ I want you to say, **[Bottom Line] ‘Jesus is alive,’** and wave your palm branch in the air. Ready? **Who is alive?**”

CHILDREN and STORYTELLER: *(Wave palm branches.)* **[Bottom Line] “Jesus is alive!”**

STORYTELLER: “Again! **Who is alive?**”

CHILDREN and STORYTELLER: *(Wave palm branches.)* **[Bottom Line] “Jesus is alive!”**

STORYTELLER: “Thank you so much for helping me tell today’s Bible story and for celebrating Jesus with me!

“Okay, friends, it’s time to close our eyes and talk to God, so make sure your palm branches are very quiet.”

PRAYER

STORYTELLER: “Dear God, we are so excited that **[Bottom Line] Jesus is alive** and that we can celebrate Him, just like they did a long time ago on that very first Palm Sunday. Thank You for sending Jesus to be our friend forever. Help us remember that we can say, ‘Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus!’ every day! We love You, God. In Jesus’ name, amen.

“That’s all I have for today. I’ll see you next time! Bye!”

(Exit holding the Bible and waving the large palm branch as you say, “Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus!”)

(Host enters.)

CG: Bible Story Wrap-Up Video

Worship: Inviting People to Respond to God

Engage kids' hearts through dynamic and interactive worship in a Large Group setting.

WORSHIP LEADER: "Hey, friends! It's time to worship. Stand up on your feet because I have the best news ever. **[Bottom Line] Jesus is alive!** When I say, 'Who is alive?' you say, **[Bottom Line] 'Jesus is alive.'** Let's try it. **Who is alive?"**

CHILDREN and WORSHIP LEADER: **[Bottom Line] "Jesus is alive."**

WORSHIP LEADER: "Let's spin and dance and sing 'He's Alive Oh Yeah' together!

(Lead children in singing "He's Alive Oh Yeah," this month's worship song.)

"Jesus is bigger and stronger than anything ever. **[Bottom Line] Jesus is alive!** Our memory verse from the Bible this month says: "I am alive (point both hands up) for ever and ever!" (Twirl around.) Revelation 1:18. (Open hands like a book.) Can you say it with me?

(Say the verse and do the motions several times together.)

"Great job! **[Bottom Line] Jesus is alive** for ever and ever! And we can follow Him. Let's sing it out.

(Lead children in singing "Follow On.")

"Jesus is bigger and stronger than anything ever. **Who is alive?"**

CHILDREN and WORSHIP LEADER: **[Bottom Line] "Jesus is alive!"**

Dismiss children to small groups.