



WEEK
TWO
APRIL 2022

LARGE GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS
STAGE

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

10 MINUTES

BIBLE STORY

We celebrate our friend, Jesus.

PALM SUNDAY

MATTHEW 21:1-11, 15-16

MEMORY VERSE

"I am with you always."

MATTHEW 28:20, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who wants to be your friend forever?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

LARGE GROUP

ENGAGE CHILDREN'S HEARTS THROUGH A DYNAMIC AND INTERACTIVE WORSHIP, BIBLE STORY, AND PRAYER EXPERIENCE IN A LARGE GROUP SETTING.

WORSHIP

WHAT YOU NEED: Paperclip "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible at Matthew 28:20, NIV. You need a music player and this month's worship song, "We Are Friends," which is included in your monthly files. The dance moves video for "We Are Friends" is on OrangeKidsMusic.com or in your media package if you subscribe. You also need "My Forever Friend," which is available on the Very Big Things album, iTunes®, Spotify®, or OrangeKidsMusic.com. The dance moves video for this song is available at OrangeKidsMusic.com.

WORSHIP LEADER: "Hello, everybody! You know, we're talking all month long about the BEST friend ever. God sent Jesus to be our good, good friend. Tell me, **who wants to be your friend forever?**"

CHILDREN AND WORSHIP LEADER: "**Jesus wants to be my friend forever.**"

WORSHIP LEADER: "You've got it! Let's stand up and sing about Jesus!"

Lead children in singing "We Are Friends," this month's worship song.

"When I'm down, Jesus is always watching over me! Jesus is always with us. In fact, the Bible teaches us that Jesus said, 'I am with you always,' Matthew 28:20. What a good friend! Say it with me."

CHILDREN AND WORSHIP LEADER: "'I am (point up) with you (thumbs to chest) always,' (spread arms out) Matthew 28:20." (Open hand like a book.)

WORSHIP LEADER: "Yes, He is! Jesus is our forever friend. Sing this with me."

Lead children in singing "My Forever Friend."

"Jesus IS a good, good friend! I wanna be just like Him. **Who wants to be your friend forever?**"

CHILDREN AND WORSHIP LEADER: "**Jesus wants to be my friend forever.**"



WEEK
TWO
APRIL 2022

LARGE GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS
STAGE

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

10 MINUTES

INTRO SKETCH

WHAT YOU NEED: Baseball, baseball glove, bat, toy hot dog, and a #1 foam finger

Host enters with the baseball, glove, bat, foam finger, and toy hot dog. They set the bat, glove, finger, and ball on the floor and stand with the hot dog.

HOST: "Hi, everyone! Welcome to [your environment's name]! It's me, [your name]! I'm so excited to see you today! Guess what I did this weekend? (Pause.) I went to a baseball game with my big brother. It was at a GINORMOUS stadium! That means it was really BIG! There were SO many people. Do you know what goes together with a baseball game? (Pause.) Hot dogs! Yum, I love hot dogs!

Pretend to eat the toy hot dog then lay it down and pick up the glove and ball.

"So good! The best part is that we got to sit really close to the field so we could see all the players. At the end of the game, a baseball came right towards me, and I caught it; just like this.

Toss the baseball in the air and catch it with the glove.

"Got it!

Hold up the glove with the ball in it.

"And what goes together with a baseball? (Pause.) Yes, I heard someone say it! A baseball bat!

Put the glove down and hold up the bat and ball.

"I can't wait to hit this ball high in the sky with my bat!

Put the bat and ball down and pick up the #1 foam finger.

"Okay, I've got to tell you about one more super-cool thing that happened while we were there. We got to wave these huge foam fingers in the air and cheer!

Hold the foam finger high in the air.

"Cheering goes with baseball, too. Go team go! Go team go! Go team go! Everyone cheered together!

Put arm down.

"Today, our Bible story is about another crowd that cheered, too. I can't wait for you to hear who they were cheering for! See you later!"

Host exits with the bat, ball, glove, hot dog, and foam finger.



WEEK
TWO
APRIL 2022

LARGE GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS
STAGE

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

10 MINUTES

BIBLE STORY

WHAT YOU NEED: Small table, Bible, palm branch (*artificial or paper*), and a long coat; *Optional Story Images*

WHAT YOU DO: Preset the table in the storytelling area.

Storyteller enters wearing the long coat and carrying the Bible and palm branch then lays the palm branch on the table.

STORYTELLER: "Hello, friends! I'm so glad to see you today. I'm [your name], and I'm here to tell you a true story from the Bible.

Pick up the Bible for the children to see then lay it open on the table.

"It's a story about a special day called Palm Sunday. Our story begins in a city called Jerusalem. Say 'Jerusalem' with me."

CHILDREN AND STORYTELLER: "Jerusalem."

STORYTELLER: "Yes! Jerusalem! There were a lot of people walking around Jerusalem when someone said (*cup hands around your mouth*), 'Jesus is coming! Jesus is coming!'

(Option: Display Story Image W2 01)

"The people were so excited because they had heard that Jesus was a good friend and had done amazing things. Like one time, Jesus made a storm stop by just saying, 'Stop!'

Hold palm out in a "stop" motion.

"Hold your hand out like this and say, 'Stop.'"

CHILDREN AND STORYTELLER: "Stop!"

STORYTELLER: "The people also heard that Jesus had made lots and lots of sick people better and that He could feed THOUSANDS of people with only a little bit of food. Wow! Jesus can do SO many amazing things, and He really is a very special friend. Soooo if Jesus was coming, the people knew they needed to do something special to celebrate Him.

"Some of the people grabbed palm tree branches to wave in the air, kind of like a foam finger.

Pick up a palm leaf and wave it.

(Option: Display Story Image W2 02)

"Other people used their coats to make a special road for Jesus to ride on.

Take off the coat and lay it on the floor.



WEEK
TWO
APRIL 2022

LARGE GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS
STAGE

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

10 MINUTES

"And then . . . THEY SAW HIM! They saw Jesus! The people waved their palm branches in the air. Wave your hand like this and pretend it's a palm branch.

(Option: Display Story Image W2 03)

Wave the palm branch with one hand and spread out your other hand to wave in the air.

"Keep waving your palm branches in the air. Good job, everyone! While the people waved their palm branches, they shouted, 'Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus!' Say that with me while you wave your pretend palm branches!"

CHILDREN AND STORYTELLER: "Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus! Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus!"

STORYTELLER: "Again!"

CHILDREN AND STORYTELLER: "Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus! Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus!"

STORYTELLER: "The people celebrated Jesus because they knew He was special. And the best part is that WE can celebrate Jesus, too! Let's cheer for Jesus one more time."

CHILDREN AND STORYTELLER: "Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus! Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus!"

STORYTELLER: "That was great! You can put your hands in your lap now.

"Jesus is such a special friend! And He wants to be YOUR friend forever. **Who wants to be your friend forever?"**

CHILDREN AND STORYTELLER: "**Jesus wants to be my friend forever!**"

STORYTELLER: "Louder! **Who wants to be your friend forever?"**

CHILDREN AND STORYTELLER: "**Jesus wants to be my friend forever!**"

STORYTELLER: "Yay! **Jesus wants to be my friend forever!** And that is the story of Palm Sunday, friends. Let's close our eyes now and talk to God together."

PRAYER

STORYTELLER: "Dear God, Thank You for sending Jesus to be our friend forever. Help us celebrate Jesus every day by cheering for Him and by loving people the way He loves us. We love You, God. In Jesus' name, amen.

"Happy Palm Sunday, everyone! I'll see you next time. Bye!"

The Storyteller exits with the Bible, palm branch, and coat.



WEEK
TWO
APRIL 2022

LARGE GROUP
3-5 YEAR
-OLDS
STAGE

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

10 MINUTES

OUTRO SKETCH

WHAT YOU NEED: #1 foam finger from Intro Sketch

The Host enters, smiling with the #1 foam finger on their hand.

HOST: "Wow! The people heard Jesus was a good friend and had done amazing things. So, they waved palm branches in the air and cheered for Him. I think I got the story. Did you get it? (Pause.) If you did, give me a thumbs-up (hold up one thumb and the foam finger) and say, 'Got it!' (Pause.) Get it?"

CHILDREN AND HOST: "Got it!"

HOST: "Good! You know, cheering and ball games do go together, but the best things that go together are my friend Jesus and me."

Cheer for Jesus as you exit, waving the foam finger in the air.

"Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus! Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus! Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus! Hosanna! Hosanna..."