

PUZZLED

Believe there's
a bigger picture

WEEK
TWO
APRIL 2022

SMALL GROUP
K-3

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

STORY

WORSHIP

GROUPS

HOME

PROVIDING TIME FOR FUN INTERACTION
15 MINUTES

MADE TO CREATE

an activity that explores ideas through the process of drawing, building, designing, and problem-solving



OPENING ACTIVITY

WHAT YOU NEED: Readily available materials—markers, blocks, paper, etc.

WHAT YOU DO:

- Divide kids into teams of two or three.
- Challenge each team to make the longest road in your area using materials that they find (like markers, paper, jackets, etc.).
- Allow five to ten minutes to build the road.
- Judge to find the longest road.
- Ask everyone to help clean up the roads and put everything back where it belongs at the end of the activity.

WHAT YOU SAY:

“When we start off on a new road, we’re never sure exactly what will happen by the time we get to the end of it. Will we have a good trip? Will we fight with the people traveling with us? Will there be snacks? *[Transition]* **Let’s go hear about a very special ‘road trip’ that Jesus took with His friends.**”

Lead your group to the Large Group area.

TODAY’S BIBLE STORY

That’s What Fronds Are For
Palm Sunday
John 12:9-16

TODAY’S BOTTOM LINE

Whatever happens, remember
God is still working.

MONTHLY MEMORY VERSE

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

MONTHLY LIFE APP

Hope—Believing that
something good can come
out of something bad

BASIC TRUTH

I can trust God no matter what.

MADE TO CREATE

an activity that explores ideas through the process of drawing, building, designing, and problem-solving



PALM PRAISE

[TALK ABOUT GOD | BIBLE STORY REVIEW]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Palm Template" Activity Pages, markers or crayons, scissors, prepared art paper, (optional) glue sticks

WHAT YOU DO:

- Guide kids to close their eyes and think about their FAVORITE thing about Jesus.
- Invite volunteers to share.
- Affirm or correct what they share, as necessary.
- Give each kid a palm leaf.
- Let them draw or write their favorite thing about Jesus on the leaf.
- If your kids are emerging writers, let them tell you what they want to write. Print verbatim what they say ("Jesus loves me," "Jesus is my friend," "Jesus on a donkey") on the leaf.
- Next, guide kids to cut out their palm leaves. (It's okay if their cutting isn't spot-on, but be sure to provide help if necessary so they don't become frustrated.)
- Roll out the art paper.
- When all kids have finished, invite them to wave their palm leaves and say "Hosanna!" as they lay their leaves on the art paper "road."
- (Optional) Glue the kids' palm branches to the paper and display it as a mural.

WHAT YOU SAY:

"The people in Jerusalem shouted Hosanna—Save us NOW—because they wanted Jesus to become their king and save them right away. Jesus didn't turn out to be the king they expected, but God was working on a MUCH BIGGER plan. God's plan wasn't just to rescue THEM, but to rescue ALL people for ALL time—including YOU and ME!

"So when you're confused or sad about the way things are going, remember that God has a plan and that plan isn't finished. **Whatever happens, remember God is still working!**

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CREATING A SAFE PLACE TO CONNECT
25 MINUTES

MADE TO IMAGINE

an activity that promotes empathy and facilitates concrete application through role-play and reenactment



STILL WORKING

[LIVE FOR GOD | APPLICATION ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: "Still Working" Activity Page

WHAT YOU DO:

- Help each kid find a partner. (Pairing kids up can help shy or reluctant kids enjoy the game more.)
- Guide the pairs to line up shoulder to shoulder at one end of your area while you stand at the opposite end.
- Call out the names of the kids on one team and read a scenario from the "Still Working" Activity Page.
- Guide the pair to move forward three steps, two hops, one giant step, five baby steps, etc.
- *NOTE: If you run out of scenarios, create your own based on what you know about your kids.*
- The game ends when every team reaches you.

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WHAT YOU SAY:

"We only see that we didn't get invited to someone's birthday party or keep getting in trouble for the same thing over and over or it seems SO hard to learn our letters or learn how to read. What we don't know is that we'll eventually learn what we need to learn or our friend couldn't invite many people to their party. But in the moment, we can't see how things will turn out. But no matter what happens, God is working!"

[Make It Personal] (Tell kids about a time as a kid when you were sad or confused about something happening in your life—a friend who moved away, difficulty learning something new at school, or kids making fun of you. Tell kids how God worked in that situation.)

"When have you been sad or confused or frustrated about something? (frustrated when I can't catch a ball; sad when my dad is angry; upset when I write my letters wrong, etc.) So when you're confused or sad about what's happening, remember that God isn't finished yet. **Whatever happens, remember God is still working!** God loves you and has a plan for you!"

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MADE TO REFLECT

an activity that creates space
for personal processing
and application



PRAY AND DISMISS

[PRAY TO GOD | PRAYER ACTIVITY]

WHAT YOU NEED: No supplies needed, (optional)
flowers, bottles or cups of water, and food coloring

WHAT YOU DO:

- Use the conversation below as a guide to lead kids in prayer.
- (Optional) Help each kid put about ten drops of food coloring in a bottle or cup of water then add a flower. Tell kids to take their flowers home, put them in a safe place, and check on them a few times a day. The flowers can remind them that even though they don't see everything now, God is still working!

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WHAT YOU SAY:

"The people in Jerusalem wanted Jesus to become their king and save them right away. But God was working on a MUCH BIGGER plan. God was working on His plan to rescue ALL people for ALL time—including YOU and ME! Wow! So **whatever happens, remember God is still working!** Let's pray.

"Dear God, thank You so much that Your plans are better than our plans and that You are always working. When sad or confusing or frustrating things happen to us, help us remember that You love us and You are still working. Help us trust You, no matter what. We love You SO much, Lord. In Jesus' name we pray, amen."

As adults arrive to pick up, help kids tell them today's Bottom Line by leaving a word out and encouraging kids to fill in the blank. **Whatever happens, remember God is still working.**