

Take Away "Palm Sunday" Matthew 21:1-11

Bible Story

Today we're going to look at the beginning of the Easter story. You can read along below, watch the video at <https://youtu.be/bU8EZpy-Fx4> or find the story in your own Bible in Matthew chapter 21, verses 1-11.

As Jesus and the disciples approached Jerusalem Jesus sent two of them on ahead. "Go to the village" he told them, "You will see a donkey and it's colt there, untie them and bring them to me. If anyone asks what you are doing tell them "The Lord needs them" and they will let you take them. They brought the donkey and it's colt to him, threw their coats over the colt's back and Jesus sat on it.

The people in the crowd threw their coats on the ground before Jesus and others cut palm branches to spread on the road. Jesus rode in the middle of the crowd and the people shouted "Hosanna! Praise to God!" Then Jesus went into Jerusalem. The people in the city asked "Who is this?" and the crowd answered "This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee."

Explore

How can our memory phrases help us understand this story?

God keeps his promises.

- God had promised his people that He would send them a rescuer. What do you think they expected this rescuer to be like?
- Make a path across the room using coats or other clothes (check with a grown-up first!) Walk along the path and try to say something about what the people might have expected from God's rescuer with each step.
- Walk back along your path and try to say something about what Jesus was really like with each step. Was Jesus what the people were expecting?

God loves us with a never stopping, never giving up, unending, always and forever love.

- God sent Jesus to be our rescuer because He loves us. Have a chat about or write down what sort of things Jesus was coming to rescue us from.

Prayer – Chat & Catch

Find somewhere quiet and get comfortable, on your own or with other people. You can read the prompts below or use the video at <https://youtu.be/3Fu61AMFMkQ>

-Say Hello to God.

- Tell God about your favourite clothes.
- Tell God about something you want to celebrate.
- Tell God about something the world needs rescuing from.
- Ask God if there is anything He wants to say to you today and spend some time quietly listening.

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Craft – 'Palm' Branches

You will need:

- Cardboard
- A lolly stick or similar.
- Paper (green if you can find it)
- Pens or pencils
- Scissors
- Glue or sticky tape

Start by cutting a strip of cardboard a little bit narrower than your hand and about twice as long.

Draw around your hand on a piece of paper and cut it out. You'll need to do this enough times to cover your cardboard.

(If you have green paint you could do this with painted handprints, just make sure they're dry before you cut them out!)

Stick your hand shapes to your cardboard, making sure to cover it all.

Attach your lolly stick to the bottom of your cardboard on the other side to your handprints, make sure enough sticks out so that you can hold your palm branch.

If you want you can decorate your palm branch with some ribbon or wool.



Song: Wave your branch and praise God with the song here https://youtu.be/kyFZ93k_0AU