

People Rejoice as Jesus Enters Jerusalem

June 28th, 2020

Ask your children what comes to mind when they hear that a king is entering the city. Do they imagine trumpets blasting? Riding on elephants? What about a horse-drawn carriage? Does it resemble something like Prince Ali's grand entrance in Aladdin?

Read Mark 11:1-6

Explain that Jesus entered into Jerusalem as king of the Jews. That means He was the king of God's people. However, He did not reign in the way the Jews expected their king to. They expected their king to be great and powerful, conquering surrounding powers. Jesus did not conquer other kings - He wasn't super tall or handsome like King Saul; He wasn't a great hero in battle like King David. Rather, Jesus brought a message of peace and love.

Read Mark 11:7-8

Ask: Isn't it kind of funny that Jesus rode in on a colt (donkey)? If He was a king, why didn't He request a mighty horse and a trumpeter to lead the way?

Explain that the crowd threw their cloaks and branches on the road to honor Jesus as their King and give Him a special entry into the city.

Read Mark 11:9-10

Explain to your children that Jesus is our king, too. That means we should honor and praise Him with our words and thoughts and actions. And Jesus is a good king! He is loving and cares very much for His people. However, if we are people who live in God's kingdom and have Jesus as our king, we are expected to live a certain way.

SUNDAY STUDIES
for Kids

Ask: If you go to a concert, are you expected to sing along with the songs or are you expected to read a book? If you go to a ballgame, are you expected to cheer on your favorite team or are you expected to take a nap? If you go to school, are you expected to listen to your teacher and learn or are you expected to play video games?

In the same way, as members of God's kingdom, we are expected to live a certain way and, when we do, we bring honor to King Jesus! Just like you don't go to a concert to read a book or go to school to play video games, we don't live in the kingdom of God and live lives that are full of hate and sin. Instead, we are called to live a certain way that brings honor and glory to Jesus.

An easy way to be sure that we are living the way He wants us to is by modelling our lives after our king - King Jesus! Discuss with your children some ways we can be like Jesus (being loving, serving others, being patient, etc.).

Activity: Act it Out!

Materials Needed: a Bible, a jacket/shirt, paper leaves (or real leaves if you want to do it outside), a broom (or anything else you can "ride" like a donkey)

Either you or your children will take turns acting out the story of Jesus entering Jerusalem. One person can act as Jesus riding in on the donkey, and everyone else acts as the crowd welcoming Him into town. The crowd members will shout the phrases used in verses 9 and 10. The crowd can also throw jackets/shirts and leaves on the ground on the path Jesus is walking down. Switch it around and give everyone a chance to act out the different roles.

Ask: What do you think it must have felt like to be Jesus, with all of those people welcoming Him like that? What must it have been like, if you were in the crowd, watching Jesus enter Jerusalem?