



Riding into Jerusalem

Lesson Aim: To praise Jesus as they did when He rode into Jerusalem.

THE WORSHIP

Who God Is: Jesus as Lord

THE WORD

Bible Story: Mark 11:1-10

What He Has Done: Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey.

THE WAY

Whisper Verse: "Hosanna!"

BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind." Matthew 22:37

Unit 3: Jesus as Lord			
	Bible Story	What He Has Done	Lesson Aim
11	Jesus and the Children, Mark 10:13-16	Jesus told the disciples to let the children come to Him.	To know children are important to Jesus and He wants them to come to Him.
12	Jesus Cares for Martha, Mary, and Lazarus, John 11:3-4, 21-23, 32-44	Jesus wept when He saw their sorrow.	To see when we are sad, Jesus is sad for us.
13	Riding into Jerusalem, Mark 11:1-10	Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey.	To praise Jesus as they did when He rode into Jerusalem.
14	The Miracle of Easter, Matthew 28:1-7	God raised Lord Jesus to life after He died for us.	To learn God raised Jesus to life and Jesus lives forever.
15	Appearing on the Shore, John 21:1-14	Jesus appeared on the shore to His followers.	To show Jesus proved He was alive after God raised Him to life.
16	Jesus Goes Up to Heaven, Luke 24:50-53	Jesus blessed His disciples and was lifted up to heaven.	To know where Jesus is.

TEACHER'S ENCOURAGEMENT

This week, read Revelation 7:9-10. Please join us in praying, "Jesus, You are the one who came in the name of the Lord God Almighty. Give the children hearts to praise You for who You are and what You have done to save us. Amen."



**THE WORSHIP
THE WORD &
THE WAY**

Segment	Minutes	Activity	Supplies
THE WELCOME	Up to 15	Treasure Chest	Treasure chest, stamp or sticker of a palm leaf
		Whisper Verse	Sign language for "Hosanna!"
THE WORSHIP	Up to 20	Worship Sheet music and recordings for Bible Memory Verse Songs are available at ResourceWell.org.	Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse Song: "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God" Other Bible Memory Verse Song Suggestions: "Give Thanks to the Lord" "He Is Mighty to Save" "How Wide?" "I Am with You" "I Will Remember" "Let Everything That Has Breath" "We Love"
		Offering	Baskets
		Worship Illustration	<i>The Adventures of Delbert and Lello</i> puppet script or storybook: God of Wonders Unit 3, Lesson 13
THE WORD	Up to 10	Watch the Word: Mark 11:1-10	Teacher's Bible with bookmark at Mark 11:8 Visual: Small palm branch or coat
THE WAY	Up to 25	Craft: Hosanna Palms	Sturdy green paper, green crepe paper, large craft stick, glue or tape
		Game: Praise Parade	Blankets and palm leaves and/or green streamers
		Game: Praise Jesus	None
		Snack: Crunchy Palms	Celery sticks with cream cheese or any green-colored snack
	Circle of Prayer	None	
Final 5	Final Five	Ponder, Pray & Play: Unit 3, Lesson 13 Color This Story: "Jesus Rides into Jerusalem"	
GOT TIME?	Up to 10	Say & Do: Mark 11:1-10	None
	Up to 10	Game: Heart Hop	Two red paper heart shapes per child, floor tape
	Up to 10	Game: Lots of Love Tango	Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse Song "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God"
	Up to 10	Story Time	Any story about Jesus riding into Jerusalem

RESOURCES: Supplemental materials are available at ResourceWell.org.



Hosanna!

THE WELCOME

Welcome each child as they arrive. **Hello _____. I'm glad you are here! Come open the Treasure Chest to find today's treasure.** Child unlocks the Treasure Chest to receive a stamp or sticker of a palm leaf. **Today, we will hear how Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey. Let this stamp (or sticker) of a palm leaf help you remember the people welcomed Jesus by waving palm branches. They praised Him by shouting the word, "Hosanna!"** Teach the Whisper Verse in spoken language and in sign language below. **We call it the Whisper Verse so you can whisper it to others.***

SIGN LANGUAGE: "Hosanna"

(For visual demonstrations, see www.signingsavvy.com.)

Each time we say today's Whisper Verse, let's say it with one hand motion:

"Hosanna!" (Use the sign language for the word "praise" as a synonym for "Hosanna!") Begin with index finger of right hand pointing up and resting on the lips. Move finger forward away from lips. Then, clap three times.

Allow children to enjoy free play until everyone has arrived. **Let's sing the "Clean Up Song" as we put toys away before Praise Time.** Praise any child who helps. Allow several minutes for clean up.

**"Clean Up Song": Clean up! Clean up! Everybody, everywhere!
Clean up! Clean up! Everybody do your share!**

Gather and seat children in Praise Time area.

***Today's Whisper Verse:** "Hosanna!" Mark 11:10b. The Whisper Verse is a tool to help the children learn a major point in the lesson. It is coupled with sign language or hand motions as a memory aid. The verse is not necessarily chosen from today's Bible story.



Jesus as Lord

THE WORSHIP

Teacher Tip: To help children identify time set aside for worship, designate a special corner or area for singing, collecting offering, and watching the worship illustration. Play “Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God” as children move to that designated area.

It’s Praise Time—our time to sing praise to Jesus as our Lord. Jesus rode into a town named Jerusalem as many boys, girls, and families welcomed Him and praised Him. As He rode by, the people praised Him by shouting “Hosanna!” Hosanna means save. It is a special word we use to praise Jesus for being the one who came to save us. That’s our Whisper Verse for today. Let’s try it together. Review the Whisper Verse together: “Hosanna!” Include sign language.



We can use that same word to praise Him today. We can praise Him by first whispering, then singing, and then shouting, “Hosanna!” Lead children as they whisper, sing, and then shout the word “Hosanna!” Include sign language each time.

When Jesus rode into town, the people praised Him by laying down their coats and palm branches in the street to make a special path for Him. Many of them remembered His miracles. We can remember them, too! Sing: “I Will Remember.”

They knew the Lord Jesus was good. Let’s give thanks to the Lord for His goodness as we give our offerings to His church. Sing: “Give Thanks to the Lord” while collecting the offering.



Jesus rode into town on a donkey. I wonder if our friend Delbert the Donkey knows about this story. Perform *The Adventures of Delbert and Lello* puppet script or read storybook: God of Wonders Unit 3, Lesson 13.



There are many ways to praise the Lord. Sing: “Let Everything That Has Breath.” **You can love the Lord with all your heart and soul and mind.** Sing: “Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God.”



People praised Jesus as He rode into town

THE WORD

Before we begin our Bible Time, let's say our Classroom Promise with the motions.

With my eyes on my teacher;	Point to eyes.
My mouth quiet as can be,	Place index finger over mouth as quiet sign.
I will listen to hear,	Cup hand around ear.
How God loves you and me.	Hug self, point to others, and then self.

Last time, we learned Jesus cared for Martha, Mary, and Lazarus. Today, we will hear how the people praised Jesus as He rode into Jerusalem. Handle Bible as a special treasure, leaving it open to Mark 11:8.

WATCH THE WORD: MARK 11:1-10

Read the points below or retell the passage in your own words using the points below as a general guide. To illustrate the story, display a small palm branch or a coat. Other visual options include the craft sample, Color This Story, or any related picture.

- Jesus walked towards Jerusalem,
- He sent two friends ahead.
- He sent them to the village nearby,
- And this is what He said:
 - "When you reach the village,
 - A donkey you will find.
 - Untie it there and bring it here.
 - Into town I will ride.
- "Here is what to say,
- If anyone asks you why:
- 'Lord Jesus needs this donkey.
- Upon it He will ride.'"
- The people came to see Him ride,
- On the road, they spread coats out.
- They waved palm branches in the air.
- "Hosanna," they did shout.

What did the people shout to Jesus? ("Hosanna!") Our Whisper Verse tells us the answer. Let's say it together: "Hosanna!" Include sign language or hand motions.



What did the people lay on the ground for Jesus' donkey to walk on? (Coats and branches.) Let's find our answer in the Bible. Read Mark 11:8 from the teacher's Bible.



We can praise Jesus

THE WAY

Teacher Tip: Craft and games can be presented at the same time in different areas or one at a time depending on class size and teaching style.

CRAFT: HOSANNA PALMS

Purpose: To praise the Lord with palm branches as the people did when He rode into town.

Supplies: Sturdy green paper, green crepe paper, large craft stick, glue or tape

Prepare: From sturdy green paper, cut a 8-inch x 11-inch oval or palm leaf shape. On the palm leaf, print: **"Hosanna!" Mark 11:10**. Cut four 6-inch lengths of green crepe paper or cut four 6-inch x 1-inch strips from sturdy green paper.

Directions:

1. Glue the end of the palm leaf to one end of the craft stick.
2. Glue the four pieces of crepe paper to the sides of the palm leaf.

Craft Discussion:

- **Who remembers the Whisper Verse? ("Hosanna!") Let's say it with the hand motions.**
- **What did Jesus ride on? (A donkey.) Jesus' friends borrowed a donkey for Jesus.**
- **How did the people make the road to be a special place for Jesus' donkey? (They laid coats and palm branches on the road.)**
- **What word did the people shout to welcome Jesus? ("Hosanna!") Hosanna means save. It is a special word we use to praise Jesus for being the one who came to save us.**

THE WAY *continued...*

GAME: PRAISE PARADE

Purpose: To help children learn the story and praise Jesus in a new way.

Supplies: Blankets and palm leaves and/or green streamers

Let's pretend we are in Jerusalem and Jesus is about to ride past us on the donkey. Let's make a path for His donkey. Then, we can praise Him by shouting "Hosanna!" We shout "Hosanna" to tell Jesus we are glad He is our Lord.

Directions:

1. Choose one child to be Jesus.
2. Give blankets to some children and palm leaves and/or streamers to the rest of the children.
3. **Let's pretend these blankets are coats. Make a path for Jesus' donkey by spreading your coats on the ground.**
4. **Wave your palm leaves and streamers. Everyone shout "Hosanna!"**
5. Have the children stand on either side of the blankets to form a path.
6. Have the child playing Jesus pretend to ride a donkey on the path as the other children wave the leaves and shout "Hosanna!"
7. Play again as time allows, letting children switch roles each time.

GAME: PRAISE JESUS

Purpose: For children to praise Jesus for His many blessings.

Supplies: None

The people praised Jesus as the Lord. What did they shout? ("Hosanna!") Jesus is our Lord, too. Let's praise Him for things He has done for us.

Directions:

1. Children sit in a circle.
2. Ask each child to stand and complete the following sentence:
I praise Jesus for _____. (Mom, dad, dog, friend, food, church, house, etc.)
3. Lead all children in responding to each sentence of praise by shouting "**Hosanna!**"

THE WAY *continued...*

SNACK: CRUNCHY PALMS

Purpose: Children will eat a green snack to remind them of the palm branches in today's story.

Snack Suggestion: Celery sticks with cream cheese or any green-colored snack

Directions:

1. Serve snack and drink.
2. **Let's sing the "Blessing Song."** Sing to the tune of "Frere Jacques" or other familiar tune.
God our Father, God our Father. Once again, once again.
Thank You for our blessings. Thank You for our blessings. Amen. Amen.
3. Lead discussion below while children enjoy their snack.
 - **Who remembers our Whisper Verse?** Choose a child to demonstrate the motions to the Whisper Verse: "Hosanna!"
 - **What did the people lay on the ground for Jesus' donkey to walk on?** (Coats and palm branches.) **We are eating celery sticks. They are green like palm branches. Hold up your celery stick and wave it in the air like a palm branch.**
 - **The people shouted "Hosanna" to praise and welcome the Lord to their town.**
 - **How would you welcome the Lord to town?** (Children respond.) **Even though we cannot see Him, Jesus is with us all the time through His Holy Spirit. You can welcome Jesus by loving Him with all your heart and all your soul and all your mind.**



CIRCLE OF PRAYER

God made you and He cares for you. He loves to hear you pray with private words or words you say out loud. Let's fold our hands and close our eyes. As I lift up your name to God in heaven, I will lay my hand on your shoulder. Let's pray together.

Dear God, thank You for making us and loving us. We lift up to You a special prayer for ____, ____, ____ (read every name). We pray for our families and friends. Thank You for teaching us how to love one another. Amen.



When only 5 minutes remain, begin this segment.

FINAL FIVE MINUTES

COMPLETED CRAFT: Take home your "Hosanna Palm" craft. Wave it and lay it down to show someone what the people did when Jesus rode into town on the donkey.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY: Distribute Ponder, Pray & Play cards if available. **Show this card to your family. Talk about the special way people praised Jesus as He rode into town.**

COLOR THIS STORY: "Jesus Rides into Jerusalem." Discuss the Bible Story and play the Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse Song, "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God," as children color.



If time remains, choose from the connected activities below.

GOT TIME?

SAY & DO: MARK 11:1-10

Purpose: This pantomime version of the Bible Story helps children remember the story details.

Supplies: None

Directions: With each phrase, the teacher says the phrase and acts it out with hand motions; then repeats the same phrase and motions with the children.

- **Jesus walked towards Jerusalem,** (Walk in place.)
- **He sent two friends ahead.** (Hold up two fingers.)
- **He sent them to the village nearby,** (Point far away.)
- **And this is what He said:** (Cup hands around ear, as if listening.)

- **“When you reach the village,** (Walk in place.)
- **A donkey you will find.** (Use hands to make donkey ears.)
- **Untie it there and bring it here.** (Pretend to untie a rope.)
- **Into town I will ride.** (Point to self.)

- **Here is what to say,** (Point to mouth.)
- **If anyone asks you why,** (Palms up, as if asking a question.)
- **‘Lord Jesus needs this donkey.** (Fold hands, as if begging.)
- **Upon it He will ride.’”** (Pretend to hold reins.)

- **The people came to see Him ride;** (Use hands as binoculars.)
- **On the road they spread coats out.** (Pretend to lay coat on ground.)
- **They waved palm branches in the air.** (Wave hands in air.)
- **“Hosanna,” they did shout.** (Sign language or cup hands around mouth, as if shouting.)



BIBLE MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITIES

“Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul
and with all your mind.” Matthew 22:37

GAME: HEART HOP

Purpose: To help children memorize and review the Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Two red paper heart shapes per child, floor tape

Directions:

1. Tape the paper heart shapes in a large circle on the floor.
2. Children stand on every other heart.
3. Say the Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse. Have children repeat each word after you.
4. Say the Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse again. This time, children turn to their right and hop from one heart to the next heart on each word.

GOT TIME? *continued...*

GAME: LOTS OF LOVE TANGO

Purpose: To help children learn the meaning of the Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse.

Supplies: Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse Song "Praise Time: Love the Lord Your God"

Do you love Jesus, the Lord? (Children respond.) **Jesus wants you to love Him with every part of your body—from the top of your head to the tips of your toes! Look at everyone around you. They are your neighbors! Wave to your neighbors! God wants you to love everyone around you, too!**

Directions:

1. Help children find partners. Partners stand together.
2. Play the Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse Song and lead the following motions:
 - "You shall love the Lord your God,** (Point up to God in heaven.)
 - With all your heart and with all your soul** (Pat sides of body from head to toes.)
 - and with all your mind.**
 - Love your neighbor as yourself—** (Hug partner.)
 - the best commandments you'll find!"**
 - Praise Time chorus. (Hop, clap, or dance to the rhythm of the music.)



STORY TIME

Gather the children and read a favorite story. This can be a Bible Story, a chapter from *The Adventures of Delbert & Lello*, or a story about Jesus riding into Jerusalem.

PONDER, PRAY & PLAY

Unit 3, Lesson 13: Riding into Jerusalem

PONDER! Read Mark 11:1-10 with your family. Talk about how Jesus rode into the town of Jerusalem. The people there had heard about Jesus and His miracles. What did the people say and do to praise Jesus? How can you praise Jesus?

PRAY! Pray this prayer each day this week: "Jesus, we praise You as our Lord. Help us remember Your miracles. Help us remember that You are the Lord of our lives. We love You. Amen."

PLAY! Help your family act out the story of Jesus riding into Jerusalem. Take turns pretending to be Jesus. Everyone else can lay blankets and paper palm leaves in front of Jesus. Be sure to praise Jesus by shouting, "Hosanna!" That is a word of praise that means, "Save!" We praise Jesus as the one who saves us!

Unit 3 Bible Memory Verse: Matthew 22:37

"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind."