

APRIL 5, 2020
JESUS' TRIUMPHAL ENTRY

GAME TIME

HUNT FOR ROCKS

Take a walk outside if weather permits. Lead children to look for rocks on their nature walk! Remind children that Jesus said if people did not praise Him, the rocks would cry out. Allow children to choose a rock to bring back inside.

SAY: *The religious leaders did not like that people welcomed Jesus as their King. They thought people should not praise Jesus. They did not believe Jesus is God's Son, but they were wrong. Jesus came riding on a donkey, just as the prophet Zechariah said He would. One day, Jesus will come back, riding on a white horse as King over everything.*

BIBLE STORY

It was the time of year that the Israelites celebrated Passover. Many Israelites had traveled to Jerusalem to remember what God had done when He rescued His people from slavery in Egypt. Jesus and His friends also traveled to Jerusalem. He sent two of them ahead to a village. Jesus said, "Go into the village ahead of you. There you will find a donkey and her colt tied up. Untie them and bring them to Me. If anyone says anything to you, you should say that the Lord needs them." The friends did what Jesus said. They put their robes on the donkey and the colt, and Jesus sat on them. As Jesus came to Jerusalem, a large crowd gathered. The crowd laid their robes on the road. They cut palm branches from trees and laid those on the road, too. The crowds walked ahead of Jesus, and those who followed Him shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David! He who comes in the name of the Lord is the blessed One — the King of Israel! Hosanna in the highest heaven!" The word hosanna means "Save now!" The religious teachers didn't like it. They asked Jesus to tell His friends to be quiet. "If they didn't praise Me," Jesus said, "the rocks would cry out!" When Jesus went into Jerusalem, people asked, "Who is this?" The crowds replied, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee!" They were only half right. Jesus wasn't just a prophet of God—He is God's Son! Jesus went to the temple and made the people who were selling things there leave. While Jesus was at the temple area, people who could not see and people who could not walk came to Him. Jesus healed them. The priests and the scribes at the temple heard children shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" The priests and scribes asked Jesus, "Do You hear what these children are saying?" The children were saying, "The king is here! The king is here!" Jesus said, "Yes. Even the children will praise Me." Then Jesus left and went to spend the night in the town of Bethany.

CHRIST CONNECTION: The people were happy to see Jesus. They knew He was their King. Jesus came riding on a donkey, just as the prophet Zechariah said He would (Zechariah 9:9). One day, Jesus will come back, riding on a white horse as the King over everything (Revelation 19:11).

FOLLOW THE ROBES

Choose one side of the room to be Jerusalem. Choose one family member to be the donkey while the rest of the family is the crowd. Lead a family member from the crowd to lay a shirt on the floor. The donkey will crawl to the shirt. Then another person will lay down another shirt for the donkey to move to. Children will continue laying down shirts for the donkey to follow to Jerusalem.

SAY: *Jesus came riding on a donkey to Jerusalem, just as the prophet Zechariah said He would. The crowd laid their robes on the road in front of Him. People welcomed Jesus as their King. The people were happy to see Jesus. One day, Jesus will come back, riding on a white horse as King over everything.*

