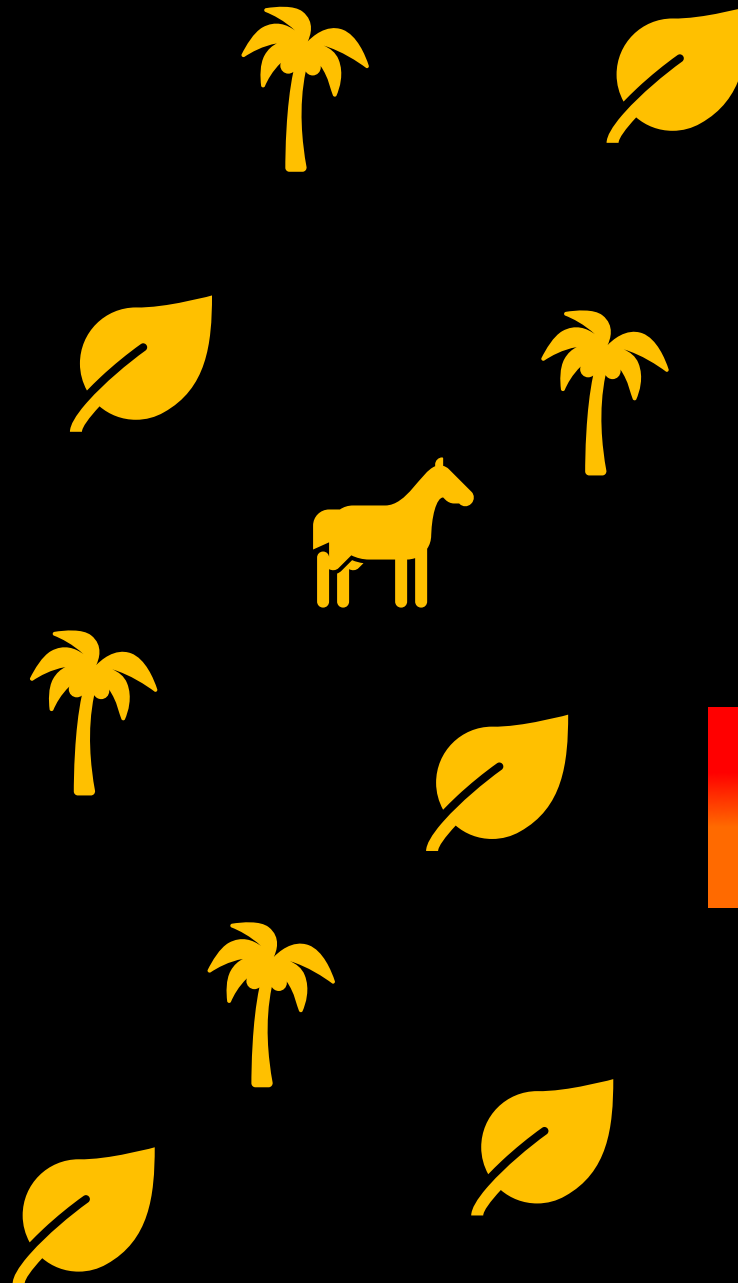


# Palm Sunday



Bright  
Sparks

I G N I T E

DNA

# Introduction

- ▶ In this session we are going to be thinking about Palm Sunday, which we remember and celebrate on the Sunday before Easter Sunday, marking the start of Holy Week leading up to Good Friday.
- ▶ The session has a number of activities designed to be carried out together as a family and is suitable for all ages of children and young people.
- ▶ Any materials you need should be found in your house and should not require you to go anywhere.
- ▶ Enjoy, and God bless you as you use these resources at home.
- ▶ So let's begin as we always do....Hands up for news time!

# NEWS TIME!



SHARE YOUR NEWS  
OF THE WEEK



WHAT DO YOU WANT  
TO THANK GOD FOR?



HOW HAS SOMEONE  
HELPED YOU?

# Game - Coat Chaos!

- ▶ Get some coats - one for each person in your house (or one for each person playing the game)
- ▶ Your mission is to get from the front door of your house to your kitchen.
- ▶ Rules:
  - ▶ You can only stand on the coats.
  - ▶ You are allowed one person on each coat, except for one of the coats which is allowed two people on it.
  - ▶ You must step between the coats (no jumping, diving, hopping!)
  - ▶ If any part of your body touches the floor, walls or furniture you have to start again from the beginning.
- ▶ Safety first:
  - ▶ Step carefully between coats.
  - ▶ If you have hard floors in your house do not play this game or, alternatively, change the route around your house to only go on carpet.
  - ▶ Do not go on stairs.
  - ▶ Some coats are slippery to stand on and are not recommended for this game. You may want to swap the coats for tea towels instead.



## Bible Story - Jesus Enters Jerusalem Mark 11:1-10

- ▶ Read the Bible story on the next page about Jesus entering Jerusalem on Palm Sunday.
- ▶ You have two choices of activities (or do both):
  - ▶ Create puppets of the characters and things in the story and then read the story again, using your puppets to act out the story. Puppets can be easily made by drawing a picture on a piece of paper, cutting it out and sticking it to a pencil or pen. You can be more elaborate by creating a set and stage.
  - ▶ Re-write the story from the viewpoint of one of the characters in the story (e.g. disciple, onlooker, donkey) thinking about what they saw, heard, thought, and how they reacted.

# Bible Story - Jesus Enters Jerusalem

## Mark 11:1-10

As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples, <sup>2</sup> saying to them, “Go to the village ahead of you, and just as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. <sup>3</sup> If anyone asks you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ say, ‘The Lord needs it and will send it back here shortly.’”

<sup>4</sup> They went and found a colt outside in the street, tied at a doorway. As they untied it, <sup>5</sup> some people standing there asked, “What are you doing, untying that colt?”

<sup>6</sup> They answered as Jesus had told them to, and the people let them go. <sup>7</sup> When they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks over it, he sat on it. <sup>8</sup> Many people spread their cloaks on the road, while others spread branches they had cut in the fields. <sup>9</sup> Those who went ahead and those who followed shouted,

“Hosanna!”

“Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”

<sup>10</sup> “Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David!”

“Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

# Discussion - what kind of king was Jesus?

- ▶ Victorious kings would enter cities with great fanfare and riding the biggest and best horse. Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a colt - a young untrained donkey. Why do you think Jesus did this? Do you think the colt obeyed Jesus?
- ▶ Many things Jesus did were prophesied and written about in the Old Testament long before Jesus was born on Earth. If you have a Bible look up Zechariah 9:9 - what does it mean?  
*“See, your king comes to you, righteous and victorious, lowly and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.”*
- ▶ What kind of king was Jesus? Was Jesus the kind of king the people expected?



# Prayer - Hosanna!

- ▶ The word *Hosanna* is used to express adoration, praise or joy.
- ▶ In the story the people shouted their praise to Jesus and welcomed Him into Jerusalem with great joy.
- ▶ We can praise Jesus with more than just our words - we can also use our actions. What action did the people in the story use?
- ▶ They laid their coats and cloaks on the ground. This was quite a way to show their adoration for Jesus. The ground would have been dirty, the donkey would have trod (or worse!) on the coats, and for many of the people this coat would have been the only one they owned.
- ▶ Get a coat, put it on the ground and lay face down on it with your arms under your head. Close your eyes. Think about something you have that you could use to praise God and show your adoration. Maybe sharing something with others, maybe using a talent for God, maybe using your words only for kindness.
- ▶ While still lying down, talk to Jesus about how you are going to express your "Hosanna".

# Memory Verse

- ▶ Write each word of Mark 11:9-10 on a separate, small piece of paper or get an adult to write it for you.

“Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!”
- ▶ Put all the pieces in a glass/mug/jar and then pick them out one by one and try and put the memory verse together in the correct order.
- ▶ To make it harder remove one (or more) of the words without looking at it. Now put the rest in the container and try again. This time you also have to remember the missing word.
- ▶ To make it easier shorten the verse to “Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”

# Reflection

- ▶ What was the Bible story about today?
- ▶ What was your favourite part of today's session?
- ▶ What will you do differently this week?

- ▶ Prayer to end:

Thank you God for our time together learning about Jesus entering Jerusalem. Thank you Jesus for being the unexpected King, and help us this week to shout our "Hosanna" to you. Thank you for loving us and looking after us. AMEN!

## Something extra:

Why not find out what Jesus did between Palm Sunday and Good Friday. You could read your Bible, look it up online or ask an adult.