LIFE OF CHRIST
from the gospel of
Mark

Lesson 8

Jesus Enters Jerusalem

Mark 11:1-11

Created for use with young, unchurched learners • Adaptable for all ages including adults

Life of Christ

Jesus Enters Jerusalem

Mark 11:1-11

Younger Verse	Your king is coming to you.	Zechariah 9:9
Older Verse	Your king is coming to you. . . . He is on the colt of a donkey.	

Lesson Goals

Learn that the people worshipped Jesus as he rode into Jerusalem
Understand that Jesus was entering Jerusalem to die on the cross
Recognize that we can make Jesus the King of our lives

Opener

Think about a king. What kind of animal do you think he would ride? Probably a large white horse. God's Son came to be King, but He rode on a donkey! Let's find out why He did this.

Bible Story

*Please note: This portion of the lesson is given to help in teaching the lesson. Please read through the story and read it in the Bible. Do **NOT** read from this piece of paper. Instead, make a note sheet and place it next to the story in the Bible.*

Jesus and his followers were walking to the town of Jerusalem. Jesus knew that the time was coming for Him to die on the cross. He knew that this was God's plan for Him. Before they got to Jerusalem, they stopped at a place between two nearby villages. The place where they stopped was called the Mount of Olives.

Once they had stopped, Jesus gave some special directions. He called for two of His disciples. Jesus said, "Go into the nearby town. Once you enter the town you will see a young donkey tied up. Nobody has ever ridden this donkey. Untie the donkey and bring it to me. If someone asks you, "Why are you are taking the donkey?" tell them, "The Lord needs it and will send the donkey back soon."

The two disciples went into town and found the donkey tied up, just like Jesus said! Excitedly, they untied the donkey to take it back to Jesus. Some people standing there asked, "Why are you taking the donkey?" They said, "The Lord needs it and will return the donkey soon." When the people heard the disciples' answer, they let them have the donkey. Wow, it went just as Jesus had said it would! The two disciples hurried back to Jesus with the donkey.

When they got back to Jesus, they put coats on the donkey's back so Jesus could ride it. Then Jesus rode the donkey into town. Word had spread that Jesus was coming, so many people began to gather.

As Jesus entered the town, the people began to do something very interesting. They took their coats off, and threw them on the road in front of Jesus. Also, they went and cut branches from palm trees and placed those branches on the ground, too. They began to

praise Jesus. Altogether everyone shouted, "Hosanna!" (Hosanna means "Save!") "Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord!" Blessed is the coming of the Son of David!"

Everyone was cheering and worshipping Jesus. As nice as all this was, the people there did not understand what was going to happen. They thought Jesus was going to become a king for them. They thought He would fight in battles and bring a lot of money to them. Jesus was a King, but not that kind. Jesus was gentle and peaceful and would lead people in a different way. Those same people that cheered, changed their mind about Jesus a few days later. They all decided that they wanted Jesus killed once He did not meet their expectations.

Soon after that, Jesus was put on a cross and killed. But the Good News is that Jesus did not stay dead. Three days later, He came back to life! It is important to be excited about Jesus and praise Him. There is so much to learn about Jesus. The more time we spend at Bible Study, reading our Bible, and praying, the better we know who Jesus is. The people in the crowd had not spent time with Jesus, so they did not understand who He was. Jesus made the way for us to get to Heaven. When He died on the cross, He took the punishment for all our sins. When He came back to life, He opened the door for us to get to Heaven. If we ask Him to forgive us of all our sins, then He will take them away. He did this so that we can live with Him forever in heaven. If you want to know more, please talk with me.

Review Questions

1. What did Jesus tell two of His disciples to do? (Go to a village and get a donkey and its colt)
2. What did the people lay down in Jesus' path? (coats and palm branches)
3. What did the people shout as Jesus passed by? ("Hosanna! Bless the one who comes in the name of the Lord!)
4. Did the people understand that Jesus was going to die on a cross? (No.)

Prayer Time

Pray that we will want to worship Jesus, whether anyone else does or not.

Life Application

In the Old Testament, God told the people that their king would come riding on a donkey's colt. It is found in Zechariah 9:9, our memory verse for today. Jesus fulfilled the prophecy in that verse. That means that He was the one that the Old Testament was pointing to as the Messiah, God's Chosen One. *He was and is the king sent from God to save all people*.

It may seem strange to follow a God who would have His Son ride on a donkey and then be crucified. But He humbled Himself in this way to save us. We should be grateful that Jesus was willing to stoop so low for us!

Planning for Lesson 9
The Last Supper
Mark 14:12-26

Preschool Lesson
for
Jesus Enters Jerusalem

Hello boys and girls! I am glad that each of you are here today. For the next few weeks, we are going to be getting ready for Easter. We celebrate Easter because Jesus died and then came back to life. But before He did that, He had some important things to do.

Jesus and His friends were walking together. They were on their way to Jerusalem. Before they went there, they had to stop in a nearby town. His friends may have wondered, "Why did Jesus stop here?" Jesus asked two of His friends to do a special job. He said, "Go down into that little town. You will see a young donkey. Untie the donkey and bring it with you. If someone asks what you are doing, tell them the Lord needs it and will return the donkey soon." So the two left, ready to do what Jesus had said.

They went down into the town and looked around. What do you think they saw? Yes, a donkey. What did they do next? Right, they untied it and began to walk away. But then someone asked them, "Why are you taking the donkey?" What are they supposed to say? Very good, "The Lord needs it and will give the donkey back soon."

They went back to Jesus with the donkey. Why would Jesus need the donkey? He was going to ride it. Then Jesus' friends took off their coats and put them on the donkey's back before He sat down. Many people had heard that Jesus was coming to their town, so they were very excited. They went to look for some special leaves. They threw the leaves on the ground in front of Jesus. Other people took off their coats and threw those in front of Jesus, too! It must have looked like a parade, and Jesus was the one that everyone was cheering for. People were shouting and praising God because Jesus was in their town. They thought He was going to be their king. Jesus would become a King, but not the way the people thought. He became King when He died on the cross and came back to life.

It is important to be excited and happy about Jesus. It is also important for us to spend time with Him. As we go to Bible Study, pray, and read our Bible, we learn more about how to let Jesus be our King.

Sing "Who's the King of the Jungle?"

Hands-on Activities
for
Jesus Enters Jerusalem

You can act out this story using cut-out leaves. Get the children involved in the story; let them say what the people were shouting. Use a long stick with a pony head for the donkey.

Make crowns with parts of the verse on each one. Let the children put them in the correct order.

Bring palm branches and/or coats to use while telling the story. Or let the kids make their own palm branches and coats from paper. Designate one person to be the donkey and another to be "Jesus." As they walk, let the others lay down the branches and coats.

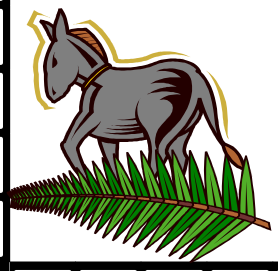
Make king's crowns using construction paper. Write "Jesus is My King" on the crowns. Decorate with glitter, crayons/markers, etc.

Sing songs that talk about Jesus being our king, like "Hail, Jesus, You're My King." Have kids wave the palm branches to the sky in honor of their King.

Play "Pin the Tail on the Donkey". Ask kids if they understand why Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey. Remind them that this was foretold in Zechariah.

Your king is coming to you. Zechariah 9:9

Your king is coming to you. . . . He is on the colt of a donkey. Zechariah 9:9



Word Search
Jesus Enters Jerusalem

h	e	c	o	l	z	e	c	p	a	l	z
a	z	n	y	a	n	w	b	t	k	y	m
i	k	j	s	p	m	l	a	p	u	o	p
r	e	h	b	a	h	i	f	r	d	t	q
a	o	m	d	l	c	j	a	a	f	l	u
h	z	k	i	o	i	n	t	i	y	o	n
c	w	z	a	b	n	o	g	s	n	c	e
e	p	t	m	a	g	k	o	e	l	e	v
z	s	b	s	l	t	o	e	r	u	l	a
c	l	o	y	p	a	l	k	y	v	a	w
d	h	n	o	d	c	o	z	e	c	h	a
w	a	q	m	b	r	a	n	c	h	e	s

donkey	colt	Zechariah
palm	branches	coats
Hosanna	praise	wave

Word Search
Jesus Enters Jerusalem

h	e	c	o	l	z	e	c	p	a	l	z
a	z	n	y	a	n	w	b	t	k	y	m
i	k	j	s	p	m	l	a	p	u	o	p
r	e	h	b	a	h	i	f	r	d	t	q
a	o	m	d	l	c	j	a	a	f	l	u
h	z	k	i	o	i	n	t	i	y	o	n
c	w	z	a	b	n	o	g	s	n	c	e
e	p	t	m	a	g	k	o	e	l	e	v
z	s	b	s	l	t	o	e	r	u	l	a
c	l	o	y	p	a	l	k	y	v	a	w
d	h	n	o	d	c	o	z	e	c	h	a
w	a	q	m	b	r	a	n	c	h	e	s

donkey	colt	Zechariah
palm	branches	coats
Hosanna	praise	wave

What did the people lay down in Jesus' path?

Coats

&

P___l___

b___nc___s