

## Introduction

You can tell this story to your children any time you like. If you want to read it for yourself you can find it in Matthew 21:1-11, Mark 11:1-11, Luke 19:29-44 or John 12:12-19. If you want to read it online just go to <https://www.biblegateway.com> and type the passage into the search engine. There's a colouring page with the story as well as some ideas for things to do together as a family.

## Palm Sunday

Jesus knew that very soon it would be time to finish his work on the earth. He had spent a lot of time talking to people about what it means to follow God. He had also healed a lot of people and done some amazing things. All the time he knew that eventually he would have to do one final job and now the time had come for him to do that. So he and his disciples set off for Jerusalem. Jesus sent 2 of them ahead and told them to bring him a donkey and her child. He told them exactly where to find them and to bring them both to him, so that's what they did. They found the donkey with her child just as Jesus had said they would.

The disciples all put their cloaks on the donkey and her child and Jesus sat on the donkey. As Jesus came to Jerusalem a massive crowd came to see him. They were so excited! Their stories from the past had given them promises that one day God was going to send a special king to his people and set them free. The promise had said that this king would come into Jerusalem riding on a donkey and here Jesus was doing just that! Some of these people had seen Jesus before and had seen him bring his friend Lazarus back to life. Could it really be that Jesus was now going to set them free? For years, they had been living in Israel with the Romans in charge. Nobody liked the Romans because they were unkind and made life really hard for people. Maybe, just maybe Jesus was going to make them go away.

As Jesus rode towards Jerusalem the crowd put their cloaks on the ground. This was a sign of respecting him as their special king. They also waved palm branches and shouted out, "Hosanna!" which means "Please rescue us!" They were so excited and desperate to see Jesus set them free and get rid of the Romans. As Jesus came into Jerusalem, people started asking questions about him. "Who is this man? What has he come to do?" People started noticing the noise and what was happening. What was Jesus going to do?

Jesus felt sad. He loved his people, but some didn't understand what he was doing. Some were angry with Jesus. He wasn't wanting to get rid of the Romans at all. He wanted to do something so much better than that. He wanted to get rid of everything that gets in the way of all his people (that includes you and me) and himself and he knew that some people wouldn't understand that. But even though he felt sad, Jesus wasn't going to be distracted. He was going to make sure nothing got in the way of his really important job and now he had started it. It was going to be an amazing week.

## **What to do next**

- You could watch the story with this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lTmbTuutBgg>

You could chat about your favourite part of the story.

You could pray together. Below are some suggestions for prayer:

- Thank Jesus that he is our special king who loves us and is always there for us.
- Ask Jesus to help us know him better
- Pray for someone you know who doesn't know Jesus that they can know him as their special king and friend too.

## **Possible activities to do**

- Make palm shaped biscuits
- You could act out the story and take turns to be the different characters.
- Make up a song of praise to Jesus to a well known tune
- Write a prayer on a palm leaf shape
- Make a crown to remind you of Jesus being our special king. You could write a prayer on it.
- You could also re-create the story with lego or together as a family draw your version of it.



Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey and the people shouted, "Hosanna!" Which means, "Please rescue us!"

# The Triumphal Entry

"Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"  
 Luke 19:38 (NIV)



S P R E A D O D E A E E Q R X  
 Y K I D D Y E R S S Y D K C S  
 H U M W Y S K E I H V V T G M  
 L N O U S T L A L D I O H A V  
 X R Z E F P R N O E L I M X F  
 C E L T I P M X R D L C U U Y  
 C B L C N P P R D N A E B R C  
 H O S L X A V E L V G S O P L  
 C I O U Z F M R A P E L F E O  
 D U G R O A D E N C G W I O A  
 S X I H H E A V E N E H E P K  
 B S Y D E J E S U S M H U L S  
 X U D Z C S C Y V A H N I E V  
 B F A V Y J T K C R O Z H L P  
 N Y B M I R A C L E S T C K L

BLESSED	MIRACLES	HIGHEST	HEAVEN	CROWD
SPREAD	GLORY	PRAISE	VILLAGE	PEOPLE
DISCIPLES	CLOAKS	VOICES	LORD	PEACE
NAME	ROAD	JESUS	HILL	COLT