



THE TRIUMPHAL ENTRY

LUKE 19:28-44

GOAL

- ▶ To teach children about how Jesus entered Jerusalem in such a way that fulfilled prophecy and that the people at that time did not understand who Jesus was or what He had come to do for them and us.
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WORDS TO KNOW

- ▶ **Passover:** the Jewish holiday that celebrates the liberation of the Israelites from slavery in Egypt.

Colt: a baby or young donkey.

MEMORY VERSES

- ▶ **Luke 19:38:** "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"

John 12:15: "Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!"



OVERVIEW

Read Luke 19:28-44: Jesus and His disciples had been traveling through the land teaching, and as Passover drew near, they began to head toward Jerusalem. A crowd of people who had seen or heard of the works that Jesus had done were following them on their journey. As they approached the city, they came across two small villages. Jesus instructed two of His disciples to go to the village where, just inside the gates, they would find a colt that no one had ever ridden before. He told them to bring that colt to Him, and if anyone asked them why they were taking the donkey, they were to say that the Lord needed it. The disciples went and found the colt exactly where Jesus said it would be, and when the donkey's owners questioned what they were doing, they told them that the Lord needed it. When they returned to Jesus with the colt, they placed their cloaks on its back before setting Jesus atop the animal. As they arrived outside of the Mount of Olives, people came out to greet Jesus, and they laid their cloaks and palm branches on the road, and the disciples began to praise the Lord, loudly proclaiming, "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!" Some Pharisees had come to see the spectacle, and the praise the people were giving Jesus made them angry. They asked Jesus to make the people stop, and Jesus replied, "If they were silent, the stones would cry out." As Jesus laid eyes on Jerusalem, He began to weep. He knew that the people there did not know who He was or that His mission on Earth was to save them from their sins. He knew that, because they would not accept Him, the city of Jerusalem would be conquered and destroyed.



SUGGESTIONS

When Jesus was on the earth, some people heard what He had to say, and they believed, while others did not.

Who Is Jesus? While we often think of Jesus as a healer, servant, or the one who died for us on the cross, this passage of Scripture shows Jesus as the King of Kings who came to save His people.

Recognizing Jesus: The people of Jesus' day didn't recognize who He truly was and why He came. The Bible tells us that it is the Holy Spirit who allows us to understand the truth about God and His Son (1 Corinthians 12:3).

The Heart of God: Jesus wasn't recognized for who He was. But His response wasn't anger or frustration. Instead, His heart broke for those who missed His arrival. He had come for them, He loves all. Jesus came to seek and save the lost (Luke 19:10)!

PRE-LESSON ACTIVITY

Ages 5-7 Hands of Praise | Supplies: green construction paper, scissors, popsicle sticks, glue, stapler, markers, crayons, other decorating supplies

Give students enough construction paper that they can trace their hands five times. Have the students cut out the hand shapes from the paper. Staple the hands so that they form the shape of a palm leaf. Glue the students' palm leaves onto the popsicle sticks. Let the students decorate their palm leaves using the provided supplies.

Ages 5-10 Crown for the King | Supplies: yellow construction paper, Styrofoam balls cut in half, popsicle sticks, glue, stapler, markers, crayons, other decorating supplies

Give each student a piece of yellow construction paper, half a Styrofoam ball, and two popsicle sticks. Instruct the students to draw a crown on the construction paper. Glue the popsicle sticks into the shape of a cross. Let them decorate their crowns and crosses using the provided supplies. Have the students cut out their crown from the construction paper, and staple them to the Styrofoam ball. Stick the popsicle-stick cross into the top of the Styrofoam ball.



Ages 8-10 **Praise Rocks!** | **Supplies:** flat stones about the size of a hand, paint, paintbrushes

Give each student a stone, and let them paint them however they like. Once they are done decorating their stones, have them paint the word "PRAISE!" on it.

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▷ **Luke 19:38:** Jesus is the King of Kings, and God sent Him to Earth on a mission to save us from our sins. We praise Jesus for the sacrifice He made.

John 12:15: The daughter of Zion refers to the people of Israel. This verse is discussing the prophecy that the Messiah, the savior who would rule over the world as the ultimate king, would come to them sitting on a donkey's colt.

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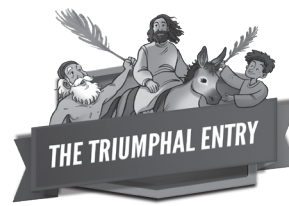
▷ **Ages 5-7** **Find Jesus a Donkey!** | **Supplies:** cut out pictures of donkeys, tape

Tape cut-out pictures of donkeys around the room in inconspicuous places. Divide the class into teams. On "GO!" each team should send out one person to look for a donkey. Once that student finds one, the next student in the team should go out to find a donkey. The team with the most donkeys at the end of allotted time wins.

Ages 5-10 **Make Way for the King!** | **Supplies:** actual palm leaves or ones made from poster board; blankets; a stick, such as a mop or broom handle; tape; cut-out pictures of a donkey head

On one end of each stick, tape the cut-out picture of a donkey head. Divide the class into teams. Give each team enough palm leaves and blankets so that every student has something. Each team should pick one student to play Jesus. Give this student the "donkey." The rest of the team should stand in two rows that face each other to create a path, or road, for Jesus to ride down. On "GO!" the first students in line should lay down their blankets or palm leaves to cover the ground for Jesus. Once their items are on the ground, Jesus can step on the path. As soon as the first students lay their items on the ground, the students next in line can lay down their items, and Jesus can continue down the path. The first team to get Jesus to the end of their road wins.

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Ages 8-10 Donkey Relay Race | Supplies: a stick, such as a mop or broom handle; tape; cut-out pictures of donkey head; rope or string

On one end of each stick, tape the cut-out picture of a donkey head. Tie the stick to something in the classroom (tie it tightly, but not impossible to untie). Divide the class into teams. Have the students on each team stand at different intervals from the finish line. On "GO!" the first student in line must run to their team's donkey and untie it. The student must then "ride" the donkey to the next person on their team and then give the donkey to him or her. That student then "rides" the donkey to the next student, and so on. The first team to ride their donkey across the finish line wins.

**TAKE
HOME**

▶ Easter is a time for us to remember Jesus' incredible mission of love.

Who is Jesus? Jesus is the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. He came to save the world from its sins and to bring us into the family of God.

Recognizing Jesus: To this day, many people still don't recognize the truth about Jesus. We can learn about who Jesus is through the revelation of God's word and the Holy Spirit.

The Heart of God: During Easter, we remember why God sent Jesus: because He loves us. For God so loved the world that He gave his only begotten Son, so that whoever believes in Him would find eternal life.



QUESTION & ANSWER

SLIDE 1



Q1a: The two small villages were near what place?

A1: The two small villages were near the Mount of Olives on the way to Jerusalem.

Q1b: Didn't the people who began to follow Jesus into Jerusalem have jobs or school to go to?

Teacher Notes: Most likely, yes. While there very well may have been wealthy people who didn't need to work in the crowd, many of the people who followed Jesus would have been relatively poor and would have had to work as farmers, shepherds, craftsmen, or merchants for their survival. In this time in history, life was difficult. If they wanted to eat and have enough money for clothes and shelter, they had to work. This was true of the disciples, too. The people in the crowd may not have fully understood what was going on, but they felt something in their hearts, in their souls, that made them want to follow Jesus to see what would happen next. To have been near Jesus must have felt incredible and would have been an emotional experience. Those whose hearts were not hard and closed off to God felt drawn to Him.

SLIDE 2



Q2a: Jesus sent two disciples on a mission to find what?

A2: Jesus sent two disciples on a mission to find a donkey's colt.

Q2b: Why did Jesus need a colt? Wouldn't any old donkey work?

Teacher Notes: Jesus' life fulfilled many predictions, called prophecies. Many things, including the manner and location of His birth, the life that He lived, and the things that He did, were predicted hundreds of years before He was born. One of the prophecies included that the Messiah would ride a donkey's colt that had never been ridden by anyone else before.



QUESTION & ANSWER

SLIDE 3



Q3a: Where did the disciples find the donkey's colt?

A3: The disciples found the colt just inside the village's entrance.

Q3b: How would you direct someone to find a spoon at your house?

Teacher Notes: We know where things are because we live in the house and we know where things go because we put them there. The same is true for Jesus. He created the world. He knew exactly when that baby donkey was going to be born, and He knew exactly where it would be when He was on His way to Jerusalem.

SLIDE 4



Q4a: What did the disciples put on the donkey before placing Jesus on it?

A4: The disciples put their cloaks on the donkey's back before placing Jesus on it.

Q4b: Someone grabs your bike and tells you that the Lord needs it. Do you give it to him or do you stop him?

Teacher Notes: This is a tough one. More than likely, we wouldn't believe this person. We would be more inclined to think that this person was trying to deceive us so that we wouldn't stop him from taking our bike. The owner of the donkey probably thought the same thing. At the time when Jesus lived, livestock, such as donkeys, sheep, and cattle, were incredibly valuable, so they wouldn't have taken kindly to someone trying to walk off with one of their animals. But these owners let the disciples take it. Why? Well, there isn't anything that really explains why the donkey's owners were willing to give such a valuable gift to the disciples, but something in the situation and in their spirit must have helped them to recognize that there truly was a need.



QUESTION & ANSWER

SLIDE 5



Q5a: What did people place on the road?

A5: People placed palm leaves and their cloaks on the road.

Q5b: Have you ever seen an awards show in which people walk down a red carpet?

Teacher Notes: A red carpet is a symbol of honor and respect. It's meant to make the people walking in feel special. When the people who met Jesus on His way to Jerusalem laid down palm leaves and their cloaks, they were making His entrance special. They were doing it to honor Him.

SLIDE 6



Q6a: If the people were silenced, what did Jesus say would praise Him?

A6: Jesus said if the people were silenced, the rocks would praise Him.

Q6b: Can stones really cry out and shout praise?

Teacher Notes: Well, yes and no. If we were to pick up a stone and ask it questions, it's not going to respond; however, as the Creator of the universe and everything in it, if God wants rocks to talk, He can make them do it. When Jesus said that if the people are silenced, the rocks would cry out, it wasn't meant to be taken literally, though. Jesus was saying that this particular moment was historic. The people could feel it, and they were reacting to it by following Him into Jerusalem, shouting out praise, and laying down palm leaves and their cloaks. Jesus' statement was meant more to be condemnation to the Pharisees for their hard hearts that would not allow them to recognize what was happening right in front of them: their long-awaited Messiah had arrived.



QUESTION & ANSWER

SLIDE 7

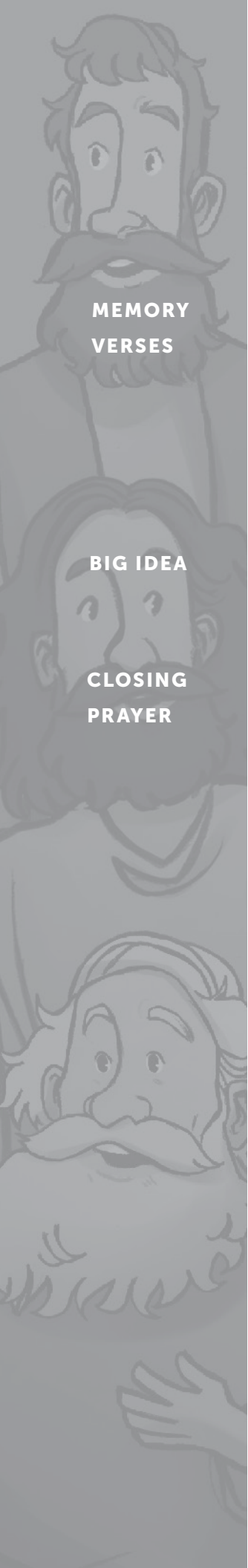


Q7a: Why did Jesus say that Jerusalem would be overtaken and destroyed?

A7: Jesus said that Jerusalem would be overtaken and destroyed because the people did not recognize Him as their Savior.

Q7b: If Jesus is King of Kings and Lord of Lords, why didn't He just stop the people and city from being destroyed?

Teacher Notes: Jesus is not King of Kings and Lord of Lords because He makes us all do what He wants or, more importantly, what we should. When God created us, He gave us free will. This means we have the ability to choose good or bad. Ultimately, the choice to follow Jesus and believe that He saved us from our sins is ours alone. Many people who lived during Jesus' time did not understand who Jesus was and they did not believe that He was the Son of God sent as their Messiah, and Jesus knew the consequences of this. Jesus wants everyone to be saved, but He does not make us choose Him.



**MEMORY
VERSES**

▷ **Luke 19:38:** "Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!"

John 12:15: "Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!"

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BIG IDEA

▷ Jesus came as King to save the world from sin.

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**CLOSING
PRAYER**

▷ Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for sending Your Son to pay the price for our sins. Thank You for loving us more than we will ever understand. Please help us to always recognize who Jesus is in our lives and remember the sacrifice He made for us. We ask these things in Jesus' name, Amen.



QUESTION & ANSWER



LESSON TRANSCRIPT

SLIDE 1



The time of Passover was drawing near, and Jesus and His disciples traveled toward Jerusalem with a crowd of fascinated people in tow. The people following Jesus had heard of or seen the many wonderful works He had done, and they were eager to see what He would do once he arrived in the great city of Jerusalem. On their journey, they came across two small towns near the Mount of Olives. As they approached, Jesus sent two of His disciples ahead on a special mission.

SLIDE 2



Jesus told the two disciples, "When you enter the next village, you will find a donkey's young colt there that has never been ridden. Untie it, and bring it to me. If anyone stops you and asks what you are doing, tell them, 'It is needed for the Lord of all.'" The two disciples followed Jesus' instructions and made their way to the village.

SLIDE 3



As the two men walked to the village, they discussed all that Jesus had told them, and before long, they arrived at the village. Immediately after entering the village, they came across a donkey and her colt, just as Jesus said they would. Continuing to follow Jesus' instructions, they began to untie the colt so that they could bring it back to Jesus.

SLIDE 4



As the disciples worked to untie the colt, the owners approached them and said, "What are you doing?" The disciples replied, "We need this donkey for the Lord of all." The owners allowed the disciples to take the colt, and they brought it back to Jesus. After returning, the disciples put their cloaks on the donkey's back and placed Jesus onto the animal.



LESSON TRANSCRIPT

SLIDE 5



As Jesus rode the donkey, people ran out to meet him, placing palm leaves and spread their cloaks out in front of him on the road. Jesus continued his journey, and as the road began to go down to the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began to praise God joyfully in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen: "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in Heaven and glory in the highest!"

SLIDE 6



Some of the religious leaders had come out to watch the procession, and they grew angry over the outpouring of joy and praise at Jesus' arrival. They called out to Jesus saying, "Teacher, you must order your followers at once to stop saying these things!" But Jesus responded, "Listen to me. If my followers were silenced, the very stones would break out and praise me."

SLIDE 7



As Jesus came near to Jerusalem, He saw the great city and began to weep. Jesus said to the inhabitants, "If only you had known that today was the day your Messiah had come and that He came to bring peace. But you will not understand who I am and why I have come. Because of this your enemies will overtake you and destroy this great city." The people of Jerusalem would only understand after His death that Jesus had come to save them from their sins.