

Preschool Lesson Template

Where	Who and What	What you Need
Classroom	Teacher takes attendance Give students a sticker	Paper on table, check off who is here, put onto the clipboard
	Make handprint palm leaves (pg. 9)	
Large Group	Large Group Time: Leader is Lorene. She will come and get you.	
	Celebrate Jesus! P. 13 A donkey for Jesus: Maze/Coloring Page.	r
	Play	



WELCOME Preschoolers

Post an allergy alert, if needed. Set out supplies to engage preschoolers as they arrive. Play music as you welcome preschoolers. Greet children by name at eye level. Follow your church's security procedures.

1 ACTIVITY PAGE

Lead preschoolers to complete "A Donkey for Jesus" on the activity page.

SAY 🗨️ In today's Bible story, Jesus asks His friends to bring Him a donkey. Why do you think Jesus wanted a donkey? Sometimes donkeys don't want to go where you want them to go. Horses are much better to ride. Listen closely to find out why Jesus wanted to ride on a donkey. 🗨️

2 SESSION STARTER

Use one or both of the following options to engage curiosity about today's Bible story.

PLEASE BRING IT GAME



Before children arrive, hide various items around the room. The items can be anything normally found in the classroom. As children arrive, ask them to find and bring you one of the items.

SAY 🗨️ Thank you for bringing me all those items that were hidden in the room. I needed each one of them. In today's true Bible story, Jesus needed something and asked His disciples to bring it to Him. Jesus wanted His friends to find and bring Him a donkey! Why do you think Jesus needed a donkey? 🗨️

MAKE HANDPRINT PALM LEAVES

Lay out green construction paper, pencils, scissors, craft sticks, and tape on a table. Invite children to trace their hands on the paper, cut them out, then tape them on a craft stick to make a palm leaf. Assist younger preschoolers as needed. Preschoolers will need a few cut-out hands to make a palm leaf. Write the child's name on the craft stick and set it aside. These will be used later in the "Celebrate Jesus" activity.

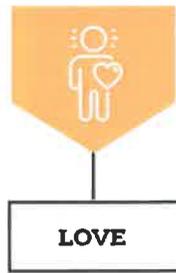
SAY 🗨️ Today we will learn about the time Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey. The people were so excited to welcome Jesus that they waved palm branches and laid some on the road ahead of Him. Have you ever been excited to welcome someone to your home? 🗨️

3 TRANSITION TO LEARN

Gain preschoolers' attention by showing the countdown video, turning the lights off and on, or clapping a simple rhythm for children to copy. Invite preschoolers to pretend to ride donkeys as they transition to Learn.

Transition from **WELCOME** to **LEARN**





THE GOD OF THE GOSPEL

LOVE God because of what we learned

1 PRAY

Invite preschoolers to close their eyes and think about God as they talk with Him.

SAY 🌟 God, we praise You today for sending Jesus. Just like the people who waved palm branches and shouted ‘Hosanna,’ we want everyone to know that we love You! Amen. 🌟

2 SNACK AND TALK



Post an allergy alert. Wash hands or use hand sanitizer. Serve a snack. Show the Bible story picture poster as you ask the following questions. Retell parts of the Bible story as needed.

SAY 🌟 What was your favorite part of today’s Bible story? 🌟

SAY 🌟 What did you learn about God in today’s Bible story? 🌟

SAY 🌟 Why didn’t the religious leaders want people praising Jesus? 🌟

SAY 🌟 How is Jesus the perfect Prophet? God speaks to us through Jesus. 🌟

3 CELEBRATE JESUS

Gather the handprint palm leaves from the welcome activity and distribute them to the children. If these were not made, then distribute artificial palm branches. Invite children to march around the classroom to music. Consider playing the key passage song, “Listen to Him (Deuteronomy 18:15)” or another worship song of your choice. Organize the children into two parallel lines with a path in the middle. Instruct the children to wave their palm leaves and shout, “Hosanna to the Son of David!” and then “The King is here!” Instruct the children to place their palm leaves on the path and sit down.

SAY 🌟 How do you think the people felt seeing Jesus riding on a donkey? How would you feel if you got to see Jesus face-to-face? The people believed that Jesus was the true King of Israel who had come to rescue them. We know that Jesus is much more. Jesus is the King of everything. Jesus rescued us from sin. One day we will see Jesus face-to-face. Jesus will come back riding on a white horse. 🌟

Transition from **LOVE** to **LIVE**



A Donkey for Jesus

INSTRUCTIONS: Use a crayon to trace the path that leads to Jesus.



NAME:



People Welcomed Jesus as King

BIBLE STORY SUMMARY:

- As Jesus got closer to Jerusalem, people walked behind Him and in front of Him.
- The people shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David! He who comes in the name of the Lord is the blessed One—the King of Israel!"
- The religious leaders did not like this. They told Jesus to make His disciples be quiet. "If they were silent," Jesus said, "the rocks would cry out with praise!"

CHRIST CONNECTION:

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 King over everything.

KEY PASSAGE:

Deuteronomy 18:15

BIG PICTURE QUESTION:

How is Jesus the perfect Prophet? God speaks to us through Jesus.