

6. Palm Sunday (Mark 11:1-11)

“Hosanna! Blessings on the one who comes in the name of the Lord!” (Mark 11:9)



PLAN

Supplies

Deep Blue Resources: One Room Sunday School® Kit: CD-ROM | Leader Guide | Reproducible Kids' Book | Resource Pak

Additional Deep Blue Resources:

CEB Deep Blue Kids Bible | Deep Blue Bible Storybook | Deep Blue Adventure DVD | Deep Blue Bible Dictionary

Basic Supplies: DVD player | CD player | Pencils | Crayons | Markers | Scissors | Masking tape | Plastic knives | Paper plates | Glue | String | Hole punch

Gather: Pile of clean clothes | Bananas | Kiwi fruit | Grapes | Raisins

Explore: No additional supplies

Respond: Variety of craft decorations | Dowel rod

Bless: Thumbtacks

Before You Teach

Jesus and his disciples traveled through Jericho shortly before Jesus entered Jerusalem as king. A blind beggar named Bartimaeus asked Jesus to heal him. He shouted, “Jesus, Son of David, show me mercy!” Bartimaeus recognized Jesus as royalty by calling him “Son of David.”

When the group reached Bethany, Jesus sent two of the disciples into the village to get a colt that had never been ridden. About 500 years before, Zechariah wrote that the coming king would be righteous and humble and riding on a colt (Zechariah 9:9). It was a king’s right to claim possessions, so Jesus is shown as the King, who had the right to claim anything for himself.

The disciples placed garments on the colt’s back for Jesus to ride on, and they entered the gate at Jerusalem like royalty. A crowd gathered and treated Jesus as king by throwing their coats on the ground for the colt to walk on. They waved palm branches which was a typical action used for triumphal entries during that time period.

The crowd paid homage to Jesus as king, which was appropriate. But the crowd didn’t understand the nature of Jesus’ kingship. These Scriptures portray Jesus as king and show a different understanding of his kingship. The crowd and the disciples expected a warrior king who would claim his kingdom immediately by means of a revolution, freeing them from Roman rule.

The crowd shouted, “Hosanna! Blessings on the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessings on the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest!”

In just a few days, it became apparent that Jesus was not there to fulfill their expectations. The crowd who had treated him so royally turned on him and called for his execution. But at the end of that week, God would raise Jesus from the dead, an act no earthly king could do, and the disciples and the crowd would begin to understand the kingdom of Jesus.

6. Palm Sunday (Mark 11:1-11)

“Hosanna! Blessings on the one who comes in the name of the Lord!” (Mark 11:9)



GATHER

Greeting

Before class: Display the “Attendance Chart” (Resource Pak—pp. 2 and 23 or p. 3). Two different options for an attendance chart are given in the Resource Pak. Decide which is best for your class.

- Play the theme song, “All Are Welcome” (CD-ROM), as you welcome each child.
- Show the children where to place their offerings on the worship table.
- Have each child mark an attendance chart. For the “Community Attendance Chart,” the children can write their first names or initials on the building marked #6.

PRAY: Dear God, help us celebrate Jesus today as our king; in Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.

ASK: How are kings welcomed today? How would you feel if the president visited you today? How would you prepare for the visit?

Match the Palm Branches (Puzzle – Preschool)

Before class: Make a copy of Reproducible 6b for each preschool child.

SAY: When Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a colt, the children waved palm branches to honor Jesus. Look for the matching palm branches in your picture and draw lines between them.

- Allow the children time to match the palm branches and color their pictures.
-

Connect the Phrases (Puzzle – Younger Elementary)

Before class: Make a copy of Reproducible 6c for each younger elementary child.

SAY: Jesus was greeted as a king. People waved palm branches and placed their coats on the ground for the colt to walk on. Cut the pieces apart and put them together in the correct order to see what the people shouted when they saw Jesus?

- Allow the children time to put their puzzles together.
-

Rebus (Puzzle – Older Elementary)

Before class: Make a copy of Reproducible 6d for each older elementary child.

SAY: Jesus rode into Jerusalem humbly on a colt, but the crowd saw a king. They threw their coats in front of the colt and waved palm branches. They thought Jesus was going to set up his kingdom immediately and rescue them from Roman rule. Solve the words in the rebus, and you will discover what the crowd shouted at Jesus when he rode into Jerusalem.

- Give the children time to solve the rebus, then go over the answer together.

ASK: How do you think the crowd believed Jesus would set up his kingdom? What kind of king do you think Jesus was? How was he different than the ruling kings?

6. Palm Sunday (Mark 11:1-11)

"Hosanna! Blessings on the one who comes in the name of the Lord!" (Mark 11:9)



Clothes Relay (Game)

Before class: Gather a pile of clean clothes. Mark a path with masking tape from one side of the room to the pile of clean clothes, to Jerusalem on the opposite side of the room.

SAY: Let's play a relay game about Palm Sunday. Follow these directions:

- Line up on one side of the room and take turns playing the game.
 - Walk quickly to the pile of clean clothes. Choose an item from the pile and put it on.
 - Walk quickly to Jerusalem to celebrate the new king.
 - Take off your clothes item and place it gently on the floor.
 - Shout "Hosanna!"
 - Walk quickly back and get at the end of the line.
- Continue playing until each child has had a turn.

Palm Tree (Snack)

Before class: Bring bananas, kiwi fruit, raisins, and grapes. Remove the skin from the kiwi fruit and slice them into sections to use as palm branches. If possible, keep the kiwi in the refrigerator until time to use.

ASK: Have you ever seen a palm tree? Can you describe that palm tree?

SAY: Let's make palm trees out of fruit for our snack. Take a banana and slice it lengthwise with a plastic knife. Lay the flat side on a paper plate. Place about five kiwi slices at the end of the banana to look like palm branches. Add a few grapes just under the branches to look like coconuts or raisins to look like dates.

- Talk about where the children saw palm trees and what they were doing at that time.

Transition to Explore – Sacred Conversations

ASK: Why do you think Jesus rode into Jerusalem as king when he knew his kingdom was in the future? How did the crowd show that they thought Jesus was a king? How do you celebrate Jesus as your king?

EXPLORE

Read the Bible Story

- Ask the children to find Mark 11:1-11 in their Bibles. Encourage them to bring their own Bibles and learn how to use them. Read the story from the *Deep Blue Bible Storybook* (pp. 285–7).

ASK: What would you have shouted at Jesus if you had been part of the crowd in Jerusalem? What do you think Jesus said to the people that day?

6. Palm Sunday (Mark 11:1-11)

“Hosanna! Blessings on the one who comes in the name of the Lord!” (Mark 11:9)



Dictionary Search

- Allow the children to look up *Hosanna*, *Jerusalem*, and *Palm Tree* in the *Deep Blue Kids Bible Dictionary*.
-

See the Bible Story

SAY: The Deep Blue Shores Church celebrates Palm Sunday in a special way. The kids are preparing to participate in the service.

- Watch today’s episode from the Adventure DVD.

ASK: How do we celebrate Palm Sunday at our church?

Interact with the Bible Story

Before class: Make a copy of Reproducible 6a for each child.

- Give each child a copy of the Bible story.
- Assign parts for the drama: Narrator, Jesus, and Disciple.
- With the rest of the children, practice the part of the Crowd. Assign a leader in that group to help them say their part at the correct time in the drama.

SAY: Close your eyes and see if you can imagine yourself in Jerusalem that day.

ASK: What do you see? What do you hear? What are you doing? Can you describe Jesus?

Bible Verse (Activity)

Before class: Display “Unit 2 Bible Verse Signs” (Resource Pak—p. 18). Make a copy of “Unit 2 Bible Verse Signs” (Leader Guide—p. 93) for each child.

- Our verse for Unit 2 is Mark 11:9.
- Read the verse from the Bible verse poster.
- Go over the Sign Language for the Bible verse. Encourage all the children to sign and say the Bible verse with you. Give each child a copy of “Unit 2 Bible Verse Signs.”

TIP: Look on the *Deep Blue Kids* website, the *Free Stuff* tab, to see a video demonstrating the signs.

Transition to Respond

- Have someone find Mark 11:9-10 in the Bible and read it for the group.

ASK: What part of the crowd’s praise for Jesus was most important to them? (*ancestor David*) Why was that important? (*A new king would have to come from the royal lineage of King David.*)

- Say together, “Blessings on the one who comes in the name of the Lord!”

6. Palm Sunday (Mark 11:1-11)

"Hosanna! Blessings on the one who comes in the name of the Lord!" (Mark 11:9)



RESPOND

Loving God, Loving Neighbor

- Consider celebrating Palm Sunday in your church by collecting good used coats to donate to an organization in your community that helps people in need. The coats can be offered during the Palm Sunday parade.
-

Palm Sunday Banner (Group Activity)

Before class: Gather a variety of craft decorations, such as felt, scraps of material, glitter, craft jewels, fabric or puff paint, and so forth.

SAY: This quarter we will make banners to display in our room. Today, we will make a Palm Sunday banner.

ASK: What reminds you of Palm Sunday? Which of those things can we use to design our banner? (*palm branches, colt, coats on the ground, Hosanna, and so forth*)

- Make a sketch of the design for your banner.
 - Assign different parts of the banner to the children, such as the following:
 - Decide on the size of your banner and cut a large piece of material or felt that size. Lay a dowel rod on one end of the banner. Apply two lines of liquid glue above and below the rod. Then wrap the end of the banner around the rod.
 - Allow another group or child to draw and cut out the symbols to place on the banner. Decide how to place the symbols on the banner and glue them to the banner.
 - Have another group or child draw and cut out letters for the word *PALM SUNDAY*. Decide where to place the words and glue the letters to the banner.
 - When everything is glued on the banner, decide if you want to add decorations, such as glitter or fabric paint to the design.
 - Leave the banner lying flat on a table until the glue dries.
 - Tie a string to the ends of the dowel and decide where to display the banner in your room.
-

Transition to Bless

Before class: Take pp. 12, 13, and 15 out of the Resource Pak. If it hasn't been done yet, cut out the banner for Jesus riding into Jerusalem.

SAY: This month we will continue constructing a timeline of the events from Lent through Holy Week. Last week we talked about the banner of Jesus praying in the garden. This week we will place the banner for Palm Sunday.

ASK: Do you know what day in Holy Week this event happened? (*Sunday before Easter Sunday*)

SAY: Palm Sunday is the beginning of Holy Week. We chose to celebrate Palm Sunday after some of the events of Holy Week because this Sunday is Palm Sunday on our calendar.

6. Palm Sunday (Mark 11:1-11)

"Hosanna! Blessings on the one who comes in the name of the Lord!" (Mark 11:9)



BLESS

Inviting

- Invite a child to place the banner showing Jesus riding into Jerusalem between the Lent banner and the banner of Jesus washing feet.

ASK: What words would you use to describe the day Jesus rode into Jerusalem as king?

- Ask one of the children to write Sunday on a card and tack it on the board under the banner.
-

Praising

Before class: Make copies of "Part of the Story" (Reproducible Kids' Book—p. 89). Punch holes in them and place them in the notebooks used as songbooks.

SAY: Our song this month is "Part of the Story."

- Hand out the songbooks and have the children find the song.
 - Play this month's song and encourage the children to sing and dance to the song.
-

Blessing

SAY: Each week before you leave, you will receive a blessing. These blessings will show how special you are to God.

- Gather the children in a circle. Go around the circle and offer a blessing to each child.

SAY: (Child's name), celebrate Jesus as your king today.

PRAY: Dear God, we praise you for giving us Jesus. Help us celebrate him as king every day of our lives; in Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Loving God/Loving Neighbor at Home

Before class: Make a copy of Reproducible 6f for each child.

SAY: "Loving God/Loving Neighbor – Faith Family Devotional" is for you and your family to use at home.

ASK: Can you share the story of Jesus riding into Jerusalem as king with your family?

- Send home a copy of Reproducible 6f with each child.

Palm Sunday – Bible Story

6a

Narrator: Jesus and the disciples were traveling to Jerusalem for the Passover. When they came to Bethany, they stopped and Jesus sent two of his disciples on an errand.

Jesus: Go into the village. As soon as you enter, you will find a colt tied up. Untie it and bring it back to me. If people ask what you're doing, tell them the master needs it now, and he will return it.

Narrator: The two disciples went into the city and found the colt tied to a gate. They untied it to take it with them. Some people standing around asked what they were doing.

Disciple: Its master needs it, and he will send it back right away.

Narrator: The people accepted their answer, so they brought the colt to Jesus. The disciples put some clothes on the back of the colt for Jesus to sit on, and they made their way to Jerusalem.

Along the way, many people spread out their clothes on the road for the colt to walk on. Others cut palm branches and waved them to honor Jesus. The people all around Jesus were shouting.

Crowd: Hosanna! Blessings on the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessings on the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest!

Narrator: Jesus rode into Jerusalem like a king, and the people praised him. The crowd thought Jesus was going to be their king right then, but this royal entrance was the beginning of a week that took Jesus down a very different path.

(Based on Mark 11:1-11)



6b Match the Palm Leaves – Puzzle (Preschool)

The children waved palm branches to honor Jesus. Look for the matching palm branches and draw lines between them.



Connect the Phrases – Puzzle (Younger Elementary)

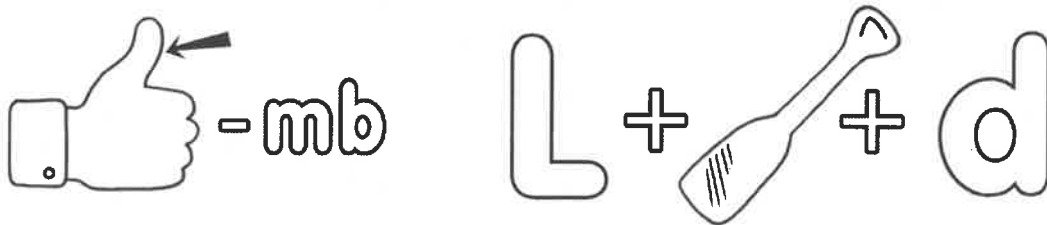
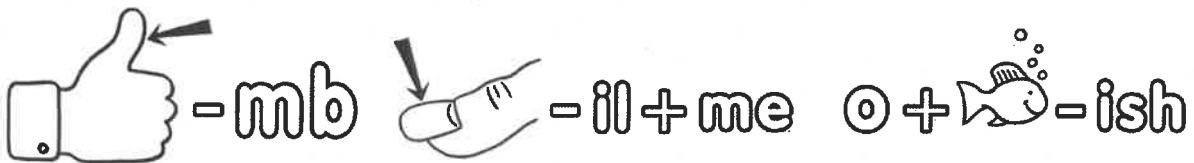
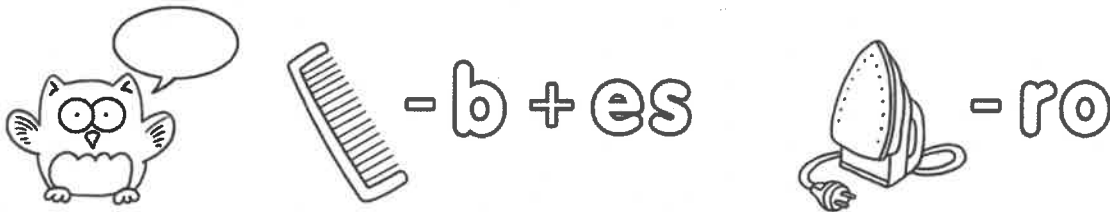
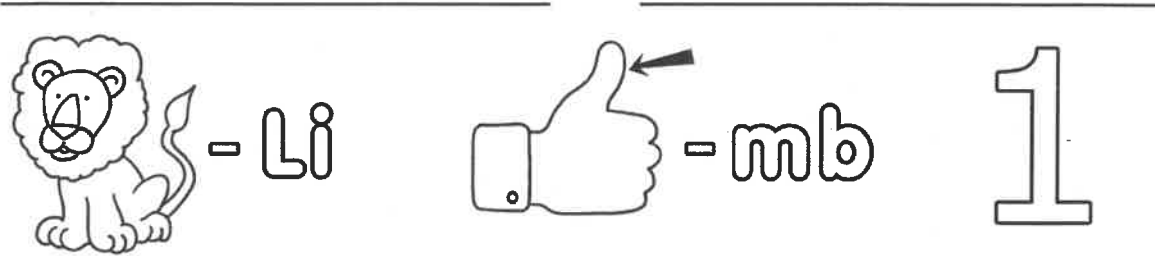
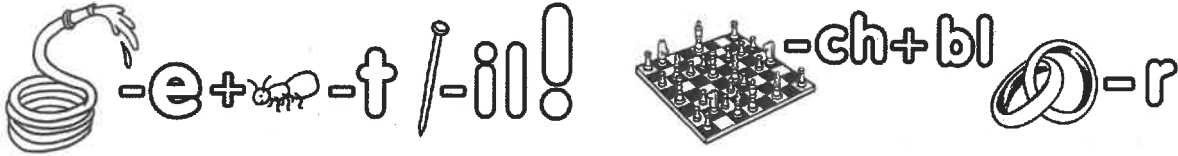
6c

Cut the pieces apart and put them together in the correct order. What did the people shout when they saw Jesus?



6d Rebus - Puzzle (Older Elementary)

Solve the words in the rebus, and you will discover what the crowd shouted at Jesus when he rode into Jerusalem.



Resurrection Rolls – Snack (To be used in Session 7)

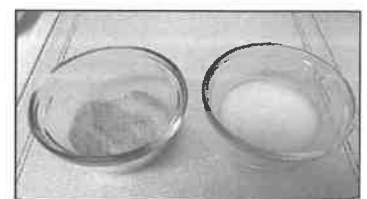
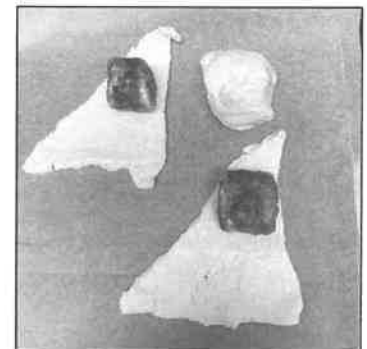
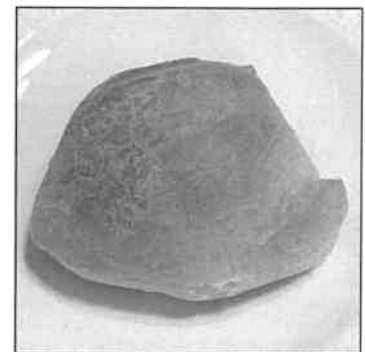
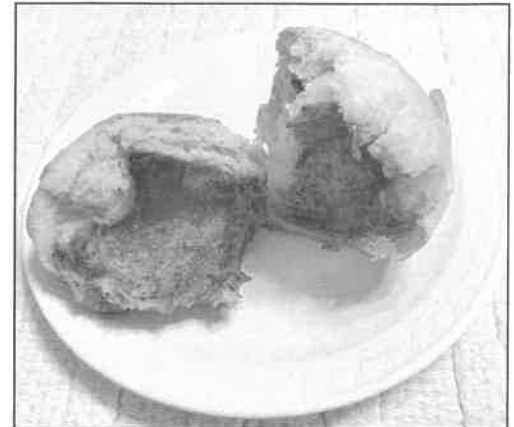
6e

Ingredients

- can refrigerated crescent dough
- sugar
- cinnamon
- butter
- large marshmallows

Directions

- Preheat oven to 375°F. *Read John 19 while the oven is heating.*
- Spray a cookie sheet with cooking spray or line with parchment paper.
- Unroll crescent dough and separate each triangle. *This is like the cloth they wrapped Jesus in.*
- Have children dip marshmallow in melted butter. Roll in cinnamon and sugar mixture. *The marshmallow represents Jesus. The butter, cinnamon, and sugar are like the oil and spices used to prepare a body for burial.*
- Place marshmallow in the top of the crescent roll and roll into a crescent roll shape, then secure the sides by tucking them under and pinching them closed. *This is a picture of how they wrapped Jesus' body when they put him in the tomb.*
- Place on prepared cookie sheet.
- Bake in preheated oven for 8–10 minutes or until golden brown on the outside. *The oven is like the tomb. Read John 20:1-18 while the rolls are baking.*
- Open the tomb (the oven) and remove the rolls. Cool. If the marshmallows have seeped out, remove the sugary bits.
- Let cool for a few minutes and then let the children pick a roll to open up. *What happened to the marshmallow? The marshmallow has disappeared, just like Jesus did when he was resurrected!*
- Enjoy!



6f Loving God/Loving Neighbor – Faith Family Devotional

Palm Sunday

John 4:1-42

Holy week begins with Palm Sunday. It's a day we remember Jesus riding into Jerusalem on a colt. The crowd placed clothes on the ground for the colt to walk on, and they waved palm branches in honor of Jesus. They shouted, "Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" The crowd gave Jesus a royal welcome. They treated him like a king because they thought he had come to be their new king. They hoped he would free them from Roman rule. But everything changed. The people didn't understand yet what kind of king Jesus was.

Verse of the Month

"Hosanna! Blessings on the one who comes in the name of the Lord!" Mark 11:9

What Do You Think?

How would you honor a king or a president if they came to your home today?

What words would you have shouted at Jesus if you had been in the crowd that day?

Family Activity

Talk about the events of Holy Week and what they mean to your family.

How will you honor Jesus this week as a family? Who will you share the story with? Holy Week was a sad time for Jesus and his disciples, but remember—Easter is just a few days away. Invite someone you know who doesn't have a church home to celebrate Easter with you.

Prayer

Dear God, we honor you as our king. Thank you for the love Jesus showed for all us during Holy Week; in Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.