

# Growing... Together

**Jesus' Crucifixion and Resurrection 4:**  
*It's good to praise God.*

**Bible Story**  
Jesus enters Jerusalem.  
Matthew 21:1-11

**Bible Verse**  
"Always be full of joy in the Lord.  
I say it again—rejoice!"  
(Philippians 4:4).

## In Touch

Today your child learned that it's good to praise God. We can praise God with the same enthusiasm as those who paraded with palm leaves as Jesus entered Jerusalem on a donkey. Encourage your child to praise God on special occasions and on ordinary days.

### Praise Walk

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Psalms 66:17 says, "For I cried out to him for help, praising him as I spoke." Read the verse with your child, and then go for a walk around the neighborhood or in a nearby park. Name things out loud as you see them, praising God aloud for each thing you come across. Your child might praise God for ducks, trees, a swing set, pretty flowers, or other children. As you walk together, talk about why God is worthy of praise.

### All-Day Praise

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Declare one day this week as a day of praise to fulfill Psalm 35:28: "Then I will proclaim your justice, and I will praise you all day long." Begin the day with a prayer of praise. Take a silent walk in the morning, and praise God for the sounds and smells of creation. Take the same walk just before bed. Look at the moon and the stars, and thank God for taking care of you through the day. End the day by praising God for who he is.

### Praise the Rock

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Create a rock garden as a reminder that God is our rock. Psalm 18:46 says, "The Lord lives! Praise to my Rock! May the God of my salvation be exalted!" If you create the garden in your yard, arrange the garden so you can plant small flowers such as violets between the rocks when the weather is warm. If you want an indoor garden, create your rock garden in a glass fishbowl. Make a sign for your rock garden that says, "God is my rock!" Talk about what that means.

### Musical Praise

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Praise God according to the style described in Psalm 33:2: "Praise the Lord with melodies on the lyre; make music for him on the ten-stringed harp." Have your child decorate an empty tissue box or shoe box. Wrap rubber bands lengthwise around the tissue box. Strum or pluck the rubber bands to make music for God. Have your child create a tune that praises God.