

ALL SAINTS CHILDREN'S MINISTRY
Lessons for children ages 3-4+

March 29 – *Triumphal Entry*

Jesus Is King-Part 1- TB

Matthew 21:1-11; Mark 11:1-11; Luke 19:28-38

Welcome (LESSON)

Today the lesson will start with a craft, making a palm branch. The children will use their palm branch during the story.

Today you'll have the chance to decorate something special. Do you know what this is? Invite children to respond. This is a palm branch. Today in The Big God Story we're going to hear how this branch was used. But first we need to cover the leaf with the green tissue paper.

Tissue Paper Palm Branches

Children decorate palm branches by gluing tissue paper to a palm branch template.

SUPPLIES

Palm Branch template on cardstock-1/child

Tissue paper or crepe paper (green)

Glue sticks

Popsicle stick glued to back as handle

SET UP

Place a palm branch at each child's place setting. Each child needs a glue stick and put tissue paper in middle of table.

Model for the children how to spread the glue mixture over the top of the palm branches (a small area at a time) and then how to stick the pieces of green tissue or crepe paper to the glue, covering the palm branches. Encourage children to decorate their own palm branch and provide any help as needed. Please put their name on the back of the handle.

When the children have finished their craft, have them sit on the carpet for the story:

Ponder Point: Jesus Is King

Supplies

Hamilton puppet

Palm branch from craft above

Bible

The Big God Story images #1-2

Fabric or large overcoat to act as a cloak

Hi, friends! Welcome! I'm so excited to be here with you today. Now, everyone, take a seat—it's time to hear a part of The Big God Story. Hey, friends, do you know who else loves The Big God Story? Invite responses. That's right! Hamilton the Hedgehog! Let's

call him to come out and join us. Call with me: Hamilton, where are you? Encourage kids to call for Hamilton. **Hmmm ... Maybe he's on a picnic with his friends and can't hear us. Let's try again. Hamilton, where are you?** Hamilton the Hedgehog comes out of his house holding a small palm branch.

Hi, Hamilton! It's so good to see you. Hamilton, what do you have in your hand? Hamilton waves the palm branch in front of himself so the children can see. **Oh, it's a palm branch! I think we're going to hear more about this palm branch in The Big God Story. Are you ready to hear this part of The Big God Story?** Children will respond. **Hamilton, are you ready to hear about Jesus and The Big God Story?** Hamilton nods excitedly. **Me too! But first, we need to find The Big God Story. Hamilton, do you know where we can find The Big God Story?** Have Hamilton nod his head and point to the Bible. **That's right, we can find The Big God Story in the Bible! Hamilton, we know how much you love to dig, dig, dig right into God's Word to find out what He has to say to us.** Hamilton nods his head. **Let's get started by standing and singing our Bible Song together.**

Bible Song (sung to the tune of "Mary Had a Little Lamb")

Now it's time to hear God's Word

Hear God's Word

Hear God's Word

Now it's time to hear God's Word

So let's look in the Bible

(Show the Bible to remind children that's where the story is coming from)

SET UP

****As children sit in the storytelling area, arrange them in two groups with an aisle down the middle.****

Friends, before we go any further, let's all pray together and ask God to teach us. Lead children in a Prayer to pause, be still, and ask the Holy Spirit to quiet their hearts and minds. You may choose to use Hamilton and his palm branch to help you tell the story. Make sure you have children sitting in two sections with an aisle down the middle. **One day Jesus was walking with two of His friends. He asked them to go and find a donkey in the town.** Show image #1 or a toy donkey. **What kind of sound does a donkey make?** Let children respond; interact with their responses. **A donkey says, "Hee-haw, hee-haw." Let's make that sound together.** Invite children to make sounds like donkeys. **Good job!**

Jesus told His friends that if anyone asked why they were taking the donkey, they should tell them, "The Lord needs it." Can you say that with me? On the count of three let's say, "The Lord needs it." One, two, three. "The Lord needs it." Good job! Well, Jesus' friends, called His disciples, did what Jesus asked. They found a donkey and untied him. Some of the men in town asked, "Why are you taking that donkey?" What do you think the disciples told the men? Children will answer. **That's right, they said, "The Lord needs it." Did the disciples obey Jesus? Kids will answer. Yes, they did. Is it important to obey Jesus' words? Invite responses. It's very important. Jesus' friends were good listeners just like you're good listeners. Let's turn up our listening ears as**

we hear the rest of The Big God Story. Pretend to turn up your listening ears with the children.

The disciples brought the donkey to Jesus and placed a coat on its back. Jesus got on the donkey and started riding into Jerusalem. Show image #2. **Many of the people were excited that Jesus was coming into town. So they put their coats and palm branches on the ground in front of Jesus and the donkey.** Lay the fabric or coat in the aisle between the children. You may choose to have a volunteer help.

Hamilton hops up and down excitedly waving his palm branch. **You're right, Hamilton—the people didn't just lay coats in the road. The people also placed palm branches on the ground in front of King Jesus.** Have a volunteer pass out the palm branches the children made. **When you get your palm branch, hold it tightly in your hand. When I call your name, you'll get to lay your palm branch on the road.** Call up children two at a time to lay down their branches. Be sure to call up Hamilton too!

The people were so excited to see Jesus that they began to shout praises to Him. They shouted the word "Hosanna." Can you say that word with me? Say "Hosanna" with the kids. Now let's shout it. "Hosanna!" Wow, great job! This word was telling God that the people needed a king who could save them. Do you know who that King is? Invite responses. **It's Jesus. Guess what? Jesus is our King too! That makes me so excited! I want to shout "Hosanna!" again. Let's all shout it out one more time.** Shout "Hosanna!" with the kids. **Now let's shout, "Jesus is King!"** Wait for kids to repeat after you.

Have the children say good-bye to Hamilton as he goes back into his house and thank him for coming to be a part of The Big God Story.

Respond (Snack/game/craft)

(The craft was at the beginning- if any children need to finish or repair their palm branch they can.) You can play music and the children can wave their palm branches around as they say, "Jesus is King!"

Blessing- if time before children leave, gather them around you and pray this prayer of blessing over them:

Children, may you always know that Jesus is King every day and every night.

Open a Bible and read Psalm 10:16a:

The Lord is King forever and ever.