

Together @ Home



Here are some activities you could do together as a family, begin with the story and then do as many or as few as you like, in any order.

Bible Passage

Today we will be exploring together, the story of Palm Sunday when Jesus entered Jerusalem on a donkey.

You can find it in your Bible in:

Matthew 21 v 1–11

Read the story together – choose a Bible translation or children’s story version which best suits your group.



A prayer to say together

Dear God,

Thank you for the story of Jesus arriving in Jerusalem. Thank you that you came to be a Saviour for everybody.

As we prepare for Easter help us to draw close to you and learn more about who you are.

We pray for those in the world who do not know you yet. Help them to recognise you as their Saviour

Amen

Discussion

A question for adults to ask children

What did the people in the story shout? What do you think ‘Hosanna’ means?

The word Hosanna in Hebrew meant ‘save us’ – You can find an example of it being used in Psalm 118 v 25, the verse after today’s memory verse. The people who were welcoming Jesus into the city recognised Jesus as their Saviour. Jesus’ arrival into Jerusalem on a colt was a fulfilment of the prophecies that had been made about him in the Old Testament. He was the Messiah that the people had been waiting for.

A question for children to ask adults

Can you think of a time when you had a visit from somebody important or exciting? What happened and how did it make you feel?

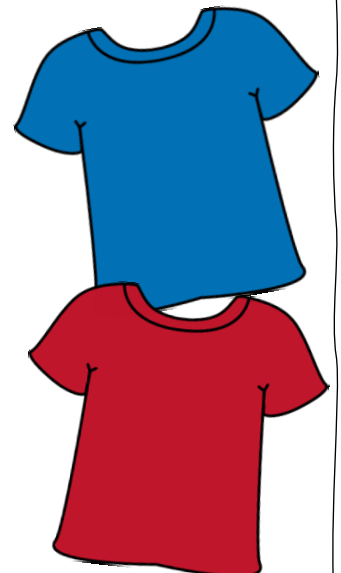
Family Activity 1

You will need: fabric you don’t mind standing on e.g. old t-shirts, pillow cases.

Using just two or three pieces of fabric can you get your whole family from one side of the room to the other?

You are only allowed to stand on the fabric and not touch the floor. You will need to work as a team standing on one piece while you move the other.

Use this as a reminder of the clothes that the people put down for Jesus to walk on.





A verse to remember

Psalm 118 v 24 "This is the day that the LORD has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it"

Try to learn this verse together, you could come up with some actions to help you remember it or decorate the verse on a piece of paper or card together and put it up somewhere to remind you of it through the week.

Sometimes when life is difficult, or we are feeling sad or worried it can be hard to be glad. But every day we have things to be thankful for. Why not make a list of all the things you can be grateful for and say a big thank you to God for all He has provided for you and your family today.

Family Activity 2

You will need: Leaves, sticks, rocks

In your garden or on your daily walk why not collect some leaves to make into a collage at home.

The people in the story were so excited to welcome Jesus that they grabbed what they could find to worship Him.

What other items can you find in your garden or on your walk to make some worship art from? Arrange the items you have found to make your own picture.



Active Prayer

A virtual Mexican wave.

We might not be able to meet up with people but we can send a wave of encouragement and pray for others.

Why not start your own virtual Mexican wave of encouragement. Video call another family and give them a big encouraging smile and wave. Take a moment to pray for them and then ask them to send the wave on to another family.

How far will your prayer wave travel?

Maybe it will even come back to you!



Helping Older Children

Your child may have heard that the virus is causing many deaths around the world, do not be afraid of talking to your children about death. Easter is a time to remember that Jesus defeated death and rose again.

We have a Saviour! - Even though it is hard to lose people, God has made a way through Jesus that everybody can become his friend, be forgiven for their sins and live for eternity with God. In heaven there is no pain, sickness, sadness or death.

God is bigger! - God is bigger than anything we are scared or worried about, bigger than sickness or death. When we are sad or scared or worried we can call out to God. God is always with us and always hears us. It's good to talk to grown ups who we trust too, share how we are feeling so that they can pray with us.

A colouring page you could print and colour together



