



JESUS IN JERUSALEM



JOHN 12:12-16; 13:1-15

Large crowds of people were in Jerusalem for the Passover Festival. The people heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem and they got excited. The people broke off branches from palm trees and ran to meet Jesus. The people shouted, “Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.”

Jesus found a donkey to sit on as He made His way through the streets of the city. He went to a house to eat supper with His disciples.

After the meal, Jesus got up. He took off His robe and got a towel. Jesus poured some water into a bowl.

Jesus knelt down in front of a disciple and washed the disciple’s feet. Then another and another. Jesus washed His disciples’ feet and dried them with the towel. This was a way for Jesus to show the disciples how much Jesus loved them.

After Jesus finished, He put on His robe again. He asked the men if they understood what Jesus did. Jesus said, “I have shown you an example. You should do for others what I have done for you.”

Jesus told the men to not be sad. He wanted the men to know God had a plan for Jesus to go away, but Jesus would come back again.



MAKE A PALM BRANCH

Tools: different colors of green construction paper, paint stirring sticks, pencils, glue/tape, scissors

□ Tip: If kids struggle with cutting, create strips instead of handprints.

- Guide children to trace their hands with a pencil several times on different colors of green construction paper.
- Cut out handprints.
- Beginning about an inch from the bottom of the stirring stick, help kids glue/tape their handprints along the stirring stick alternating different colors of green handprints as they go up the stick.
- Say: "As Jesus entered Jerusalem during His last week on earth, people filled the streets to welcome Him like a king by placing coats and palm branches on the road. People didn't really understand what kind of King He was, though. Some wanted Him to be an earthly king who would rule as a national leader and restore their nation to its former glory. However, Jesus came as a different kind of King. One who would humble Himself completely."
- Conclude by reviewing the Text Truth: **Jesus loved and served others.**