

King of kings

Mark 11:1-11, John 12:12-15

Prayer

Dear Jesus, we praise You for being the King of kings and Lord of lords. You are a great and wonderful God who deserves all honor and glory. Thank You for coming to this earth to be our Savior from sin. Thank You for the promise of eternal life, freely given to all who trust in You. In Your name, Amen.

Family activity

- * Make palm branches or a crown out of paper or other materials. Discuss what it would be like to be a king. Compare an earthly king with the true King of kings, Jesus.
- * Attend the Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services at your church as a family. Reflect on the music you hear and what it tells about Jesus' sacrifice on the cross for our sins.
- * Allow each family member to be a person of honor ("king") during mealtime throughout the week. Give that person an honored spot at the table, set with a special place setting. Talk about why Jesus came to this earth and how we can honor Him.

Did you know?

- * The events of this story occurred during Passover week, which the Jews celebrated every year to remember when God delivered them from slavery in Egypt.
- * The word *hosanna* means "save now." The people wanted an earthly king to save them from Roman rule.
- * Kings normally rode on horses to show their royal power and authority. Donkeys were "beasts of burden" and were usually ridden by common people.

What's it all about?

Jesus was given a royal welcome in the same way that people welcomed a king. The people even laid down their coats ahead of Jesus as He entered the city. This was a real "parade," and their voices hailed Him as the coming Savior.

But their concept of the Savior was flawed. Most of them were looking for an earthly king who would overthrow the Roman government and become their political leader. They weren't ready for a suffering Savior who would be humiliated and then crucified on a cross. This is why many of the same people who hailed Him as king on Palm Sunday were calling for His death on Good Friday outside Pilate's hall.

True worship of Jesus Christ is more than raising shouts of "Hosanna" or "Alleluia." True worship is recognizing Him as the crucified and risen Savior who loved you enough to give His life for you and then trusting Him to forgive your sin and make you His child.

Songs to sing

"Hosanna! Hosanna!"
 "Oh, Worship the King"
 "Praise Him, Praise Him, All You Little Children"

Memory verse

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life." *John 3:16*



Family devotions

SUNDAY

Psalm 113:1-4

MONDAY

Psalm 118:19-26

TUESDAY

Psalm 24:7-10
 Zechariah 9:9

WEDNESDAY

Mark 11:1-11

THURSDAY

I Thessalonians 4:14-17

FRIDAY

Revelation 19:11-16

SATURDAY

John 19:17-18, 40-42