

Lesson 124: Crowds Welcome Jesus to Jerusalem

[Psalm 118:19-29; Matthew 21:1-11](#)

**Youtube Link for Teachers:** <https://youtu.be/4VKSBqR8IP0>

**Children's Bible Story Video:** <https://youtu.be/MudiC073UKA>

**Worship Theme:** It is good to praise Jesus.

**Memory Verse:** "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord." (Psalm 118:26a)

Songs (Youtube links):

1. Hosanna in the Highest <https://youtu.be/QWQ47zCVaCw>
2. The King of Kings <https://youtu.be/CPBqHYVwm3M>
3. Lord I Worship You <https://youtu.be/1C4guXZFdAw>

### Pray

**Song:** Select songs from the list above.

### Icebreaker: "King, Queen, Servant"

1. Ask the children to find a partner (boy with boy and girl with girl).
2. When the teacher says "king," the children will quickly decide who'll be the king and the servant. Then servant will bow on the ground, and the king will sit on his back.
3. When the teachers says "queen," one child will be the servant and bow on the ground, and the other child will put their knee on the servant's back.
4. When the teacher says "servant," they have to quickly carry the other child on their back.
5. The group that do not follow the direction loses the game.
6. After the game, explain to the children that today we will learn about our King, Jesus Christ and welcome him.



### Introduction:

If Jesus is coming to your town, how would you prepare to welcome him? Would you clap as he walks into the town? Would you sing songs? Would you get a big crowd and have them shout the name of Jesus? The Bible tells us that one day Jesus came riding into town on a donkey. Let's find out what the people did when they saw him coming.

### Bible Story:

Jesus entering Jerusalem on a donkey was a very important part of Jesus' ministry on earth. The Bible tells us that the people were very excited on the day Jesus rode into town on a donkey. This was like a military victor entering the city with people praising and honoring him. People even placed their cloaks on the road while others placed palm branches on the road.

In the Old Testament book Zechariah 9:9, it prophesied that the king will enter the city riding on a donkey. And the people were praising, “Hosanna to the Son of David!” “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!” “Hosanna in the highest heaven!” These are praises from Psalm 118:25-26. There we see the word “Hosanna” is translate as “Lord save us!” So we can see that people were accepting and praising Jesus as the Savior - the Messiah. And Jesus did not stop the people from praising him as the Messiah because he was the Son of God who came to save us. In fact, 5 days later, Jesus was crucified on the cross for all of our sins.

Jesus deserves to be praised. We need to praise Jesus when we are alone or when we are with other people. Singing praises to Jesus is a good thing to do. When we praise Jesus, we tell him how much we love him, and we tell him we recognize what a good God he is. We don't have to wait until we see Jesus to praise him. He can hear everything we say; he even knows what we're thinking. Let's offer our praises to Jesus right now.

### **Questions to discuss:**

1. Which city did Jesus enter? (Jerusalem)
2. What was he riding on? (a donkey)
3. How did the people welcome Jesus? (by placing their cloak and palm leaves on the ground and praising Jesus)
4. When should you praise Jesus? (all the time)
5. What is your favorite praise songs? (Let the children answer)

### **Craft: “Praise Jesus”**

Materials Needed: Print craft sheet, crayons, scissors, glue (or tape)

1. Give each child printed craft sheet and have them decorate it.
2. Have the students cut out the leaf and the stem and glue them together.
3. Have the children stand in line and shout “Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”
4. You can sing a praise song as the children are waving the palm leaf.

### **Game: “Crowds Welcome Jesus to Jerusalem”**

1. Select 10 children who are similar in size and strength.
2. When the game starts, one child will go into a crawling position and carry the other child. Then they will race to the other side of the classroom.
3. Once they reach the end of the classroom, they have to change their position and return to the starting point.
4. The other children who are not part of the game will cheer for the players by waving their palm leaf as the crowd cheered for Jesus.
5. The first group to reach the starting point wins the game.
6. You may select another 10 children to play the game if time permits.
7. After the game, explain to the children that when Jesus entered Jerusalem, people were happy and praised him as the Savior.



**Memory Verse:**

“Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.” (Psalm 118:26a)

**Song:** Select songs from the list above

**Pray****Teacher’s Devotion (Please read before you get ready to teach the students.)**

Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection made it possible for us to have eternal life through a relationship with him. He is the reason for our hope and our happiness. Praise Jesus for everything he is! Praising Jesus is more than thanking him. It keeps us focused on his love for us. Jesus wants us to praise him privately and publicly so others see his love as well. What can you personally praise Jesus for? Praise him by writing down some things he has done for you and thanking him, and share them with someone else so that person can be blessed, too.

## Praise Jesus!

1. Give each child printed craft sheet and have them decorate it.
2. Have the students cut out the leaf and the stem and glue them together.
3. Have the children stand in line and shout "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"
4. You can sing a praise song as the children are waving the palm leaf.

