

LESSON 26 | JESUS: The Servant and King

Bible Basis: Matthew 21:1 – 11; 26:17 – 29; Mark 11:1 – 11; 14:12 – 25; Luke 19:29 – 42; 22:7 – 19; John 12:12 – 19; 13:1 – 14:31

Bible Verse: Matthew 21:5: “See, your king comes to you. He is gentle and riding on a donkey.”

Bible Point: Jesus was a king, but he was also a servant. God wants me to serve others too.

Resource: *The Beginner’s Bible*

- “The True King” (pages 427 – 432)
- “Washing the Disciples’ Feet” (pages 437 – 441)
- “The Last Supper” (pages 442 – 445)

Master Supplies List

- The Beginner’s Bible*
- Lesson Materials DVD (optional)
- DVD player (optional)
- Plastic donkey and a Jesus figure (you can also use stuffed animals, dolls, or pictures)
- Real or plastic palm branches (two per child)
- Family Page (one per child; see end of this lesson)

Optional Supplies

You will need the following supplies based on which option(s) you choose in STEP 3 | Explore More. All craft templates are located at the end of this lesson.

- Option 1:** Donkeys (one per child; see **Option 1: Jesus’ Donkey**); white card stock; spring-loaded wooden clothespins (two per child); gray and black crayons or markers; black or gray pipe cleaners cut into 2" pieces; a glue stick or glue; a pair of scissors for teacher’s use
- Option 2:** Pin the Tail on the Donkey game or the large donkey picture (four parts cut out and taped together), gray construction paper, double-sided tape, blindfold
- Option 4:** Crayons or markers, coloring page (one per child)

STEP 1 | COME TOGETHER

Supplies: Plastic donkey, a Jesus figure (you can also use stuffed animals, dolls, or pictures), real or plastic palm branches (two per child)

INSTRUCT the children to sit in a circle.

GIVE two palm branches to each child.

ASK, What are these? (*Palm branches or leaves.*)

ASK, Can you wave your palm branch? They make nice fans.

SAY, Today we are going to learn about how Jesus

came into Jerusalem right before he died on the cross. When people saw him coming, they ran out to greet him. We are going to act like the children in Jerusalem and wave our palm branches at Jesus to worship him.

SHOW the children how to practice waving their branches slowly up and down.

SAY, Another thing people did to worship Jesus was call out, “Hosanna! Hosanna!”

ASK, Do you know what the word “hosanna” means? (*Pause.*) It means “Save.”

PRACTICE saying the word together a few times.

ASK, Are we ready to worship Jesus? Here he comes! (*Pretend to look off in the distance.*) Oh, look ... he's riding on a small donkey!

TELL the children to place one of their branches on the floor when they see Jesus coming on his donkey. This is to honor and worship the King of kings.

SHOW the donkey and put Jesus on its back. As the children lay the branches on the floor, have the donkey carry Jesus over the branches. The children can wave their remaining branch and shout, "Hosanna! Hosanna to the King of kings!"

ASK, Did you know there's something strange about this story? Can anyone guess what it is? (*Pause.*) Why would a king ride into town on a small donkey instead of on a big, beautiful shiny horse? (*Take responses.*)

SAY, Donkeys were for poor people. Jesus — the King of the whole world — rode on a donkey to show us that he was also a servant. He came to serve people with his love, not to be served. Today we are going to learn more about how Jesus was both a servant and a King!

STEP 2 | HEAR THE STORY

Supplies: *The Beginner's Bible*, Lesson Materials DVD (optional), DVD player (optional), palm branch.

INSTRUCT the children to listen carefully to the Bible stories.

TELL the children that each time you say Jesus' name and raise your palm branch in the air, they should shout, "Hosanna!"

READ aloud "The True King," "Washing the Disciples' Feet," and "The Last Supper" from *The Beginner's Bible*. Or, if you prefer, **SHOW** these stories from the lesson on the enclosed DVD.

ASK, Who is the true King? (*Jesus.*)

ASK, When Jesus came into Jerusalem, why did the people lay their clothes in the road? (*So Jesus could walk on them. The people did this to show honor and love to Jesus because he was the true King.*)

ASK, What did Jesus do after supper? (*He washed the disciples' feet.*)

ASK, Did Peter want to get his feet washed? (*No.*) Why not? (*He didn't want Jesus to serve him.*)

ASK, At the Last Supper, what did Jesus say the bread was to remind us of? (*His body.*) What did Jesus say the wine was to remind us of? (*His blood.*)

ASK, What did Jesus mean when he said the bread and wine should remind us of his body and blood? (*Just like bread and wine, or food and what we drink, keep our bodies alive, Jesus' body and blood saved us when he died on the cross.*)

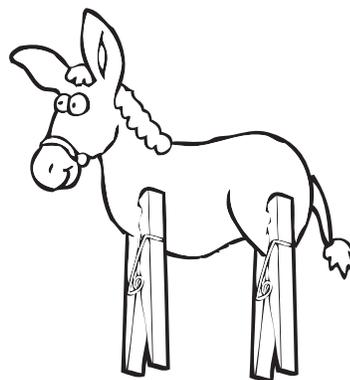
PRAY with the children. Ask God to teach us to be servants, like Jesus, who are willing to care for other people no matter what it takes.

STEP 3 | EXPLORE MORE

Choose from these activity options to help the children explore the lesson further.

Option 1: Jesus' Donkey

Supplies: Donkeys (one per child) printed on white card stock; spring-loaded wooden clothespins (two per child); gray and black crayons or markers; black or gray pipe cleaners cut into 2" pieces; a glue stick or glue; a pair of scissors for teacher's use.



Teacher Prep: Print Donkeys onto white card stock and cut them out.

SAY, Jesus rode in on a donkey like a servant. Today you will get to make your own donkey to remind you to serve other people like King Jesus did.

GIVE the children a donkey cutout and let them color the body with gray markers or crayons.

HELP the children attach short pieces of pipe cleaner to serve as the donkey's mane and tail.

GIVE the children two clothespins to clip onto the bottom of the donkey so it can stand up.

Option 2: Stick the Tail on Jesus' Donkey

Supplies: Pin the Tail on the Donkey game or the large donkey picture (four parts cut out and taped together), gray construction paper, double-sided tape, blindfold.

Teacher Prep: If you are making your own Pin the Tail on the Donkey game, assemble and hang the large donkey picture on the wall at child height. Cut donkey tails out of gray construction paper and put a piece of double-sided tape on the end of each one.

GIVE a donkey tail to each child.

TELL the children to line up. Blindfold the first child, spin the child in a circle once, and let the child try to pin the tail on Jesus' donkey with the taped end.

ALLOW each child to have a turn. See if anyone can get close to the correct spot!

PLAY the game again if you have time.

Option 3: Let's Sing

ASK the children to sit in a circle.

TEACH them the words to the following simple song and praise the King of kings. Pretend you are singing this song as Jesus rides in on his donkey. (See <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y1HO86hW9gw>.)

*Ho, ho, ho, ho, sa-a-nna
Ha, ha, ha, lle-lu-uiah
He, he, he, he, sa-aved me
I've got the joy of the Lord!*

REPEAT the song several times and see how fast the children can sing it.

Option 4: Let's Color

Supplies: Crayons or markers, coloring page (one per child).

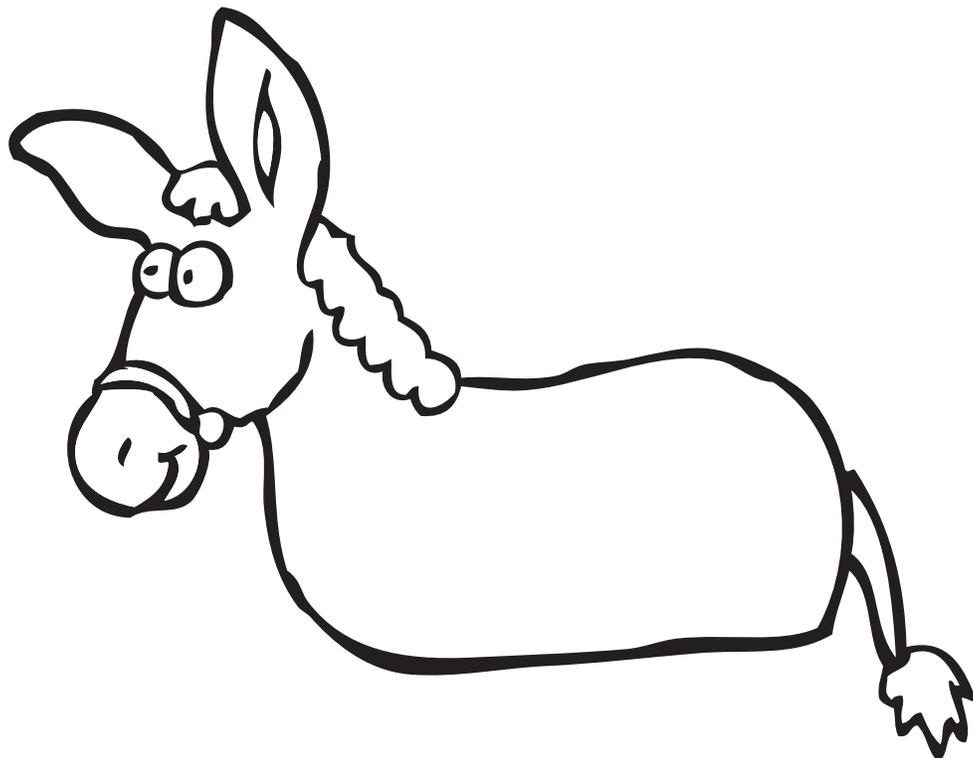
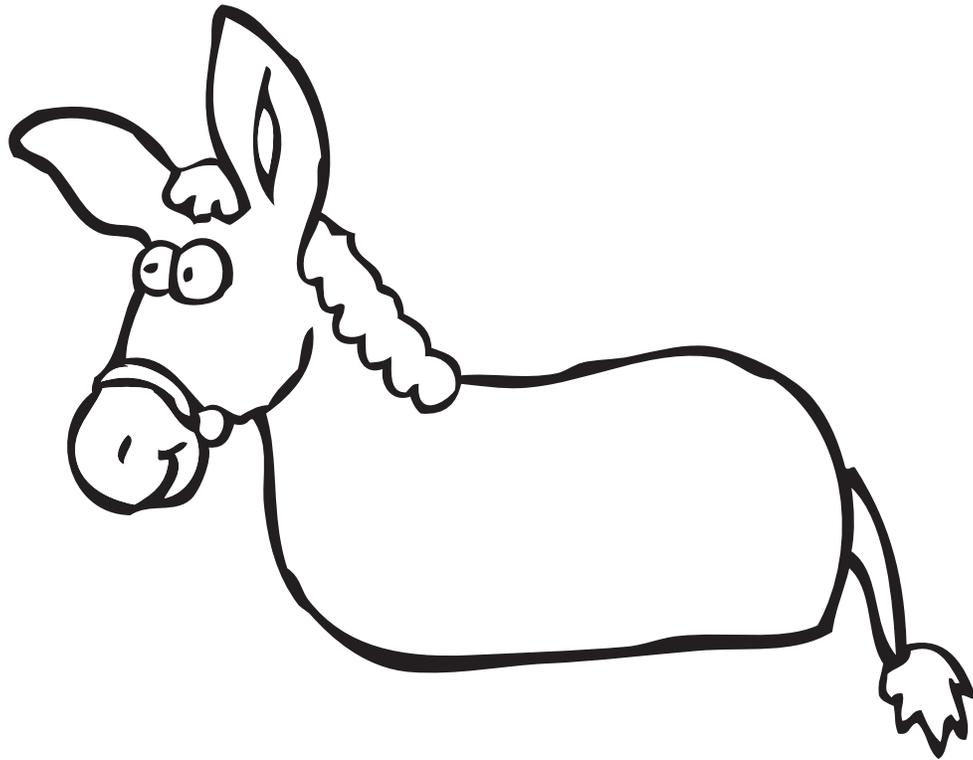
STEP 4 | GOING HOME

Supplies: Family Page (one per child).

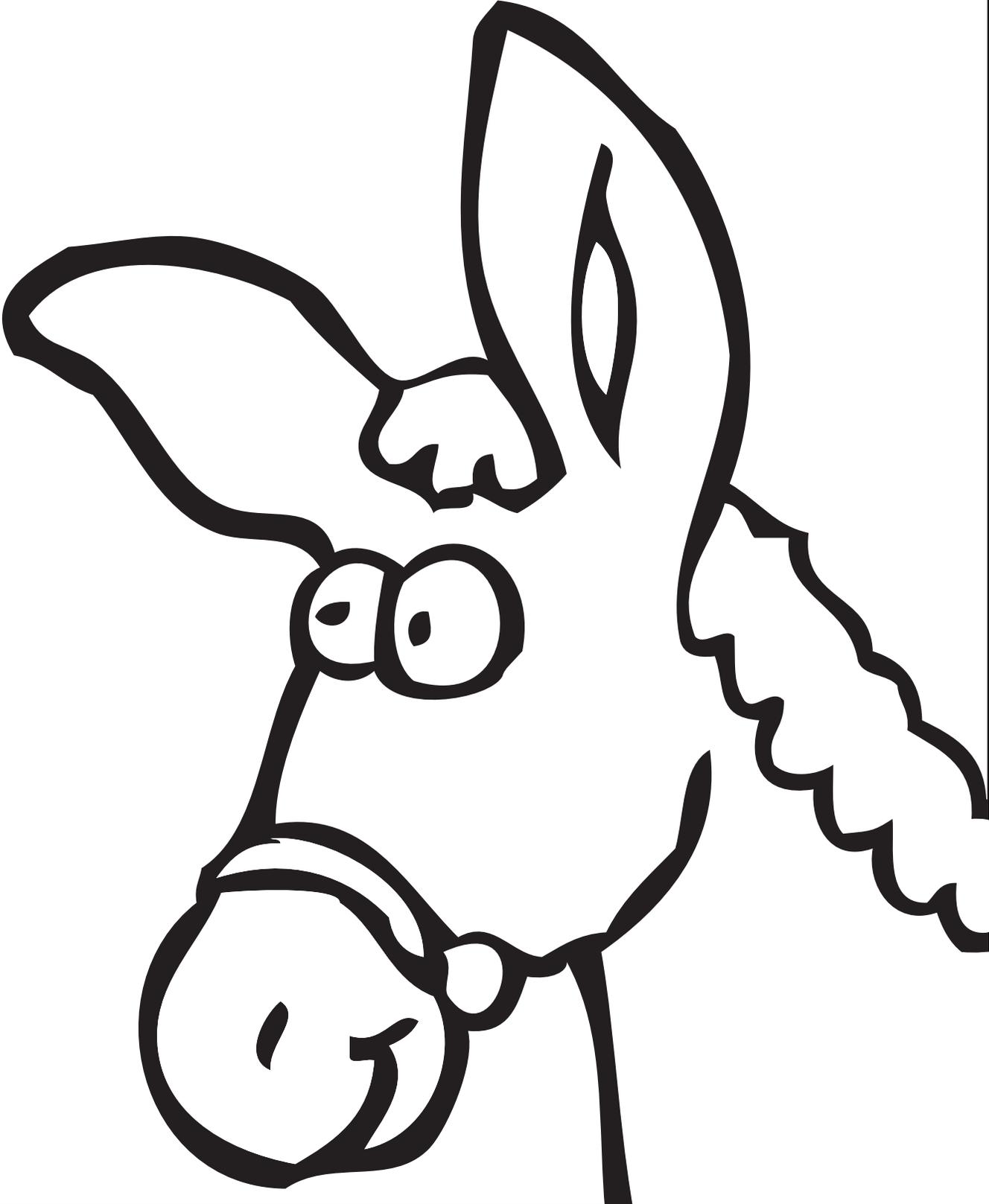
GIVE each child a copy of this week's Family Page.

SAY, Give this page to your family when they pick you up. It will remind you to tell your family that even though Jesus was a king, he was also a servant. God wants us to serve others too.

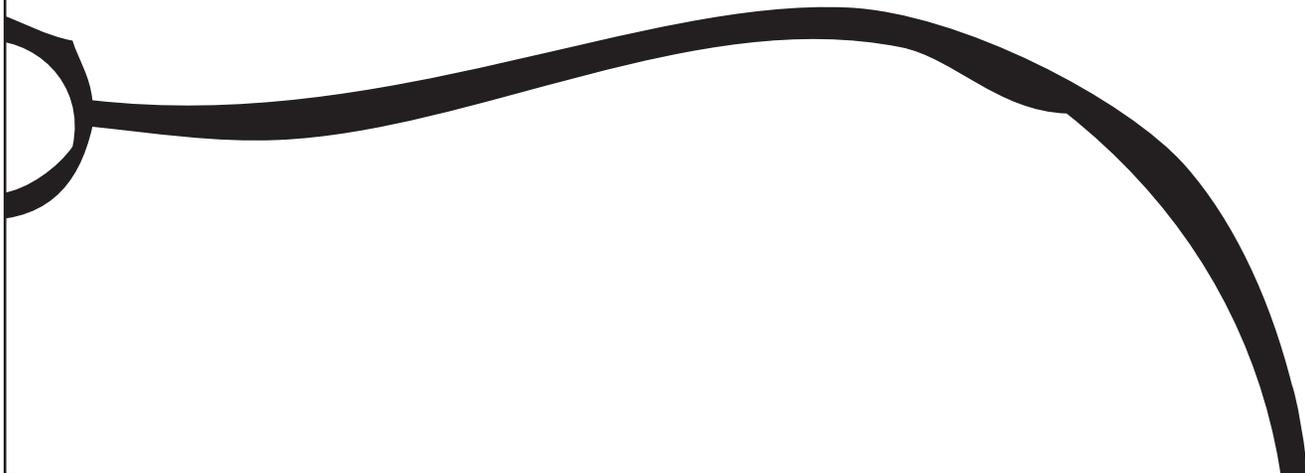
LESSON 26 | Jesus' Donkey



LESSON 26 | *Stick the Tail on Jesus' Donkey*



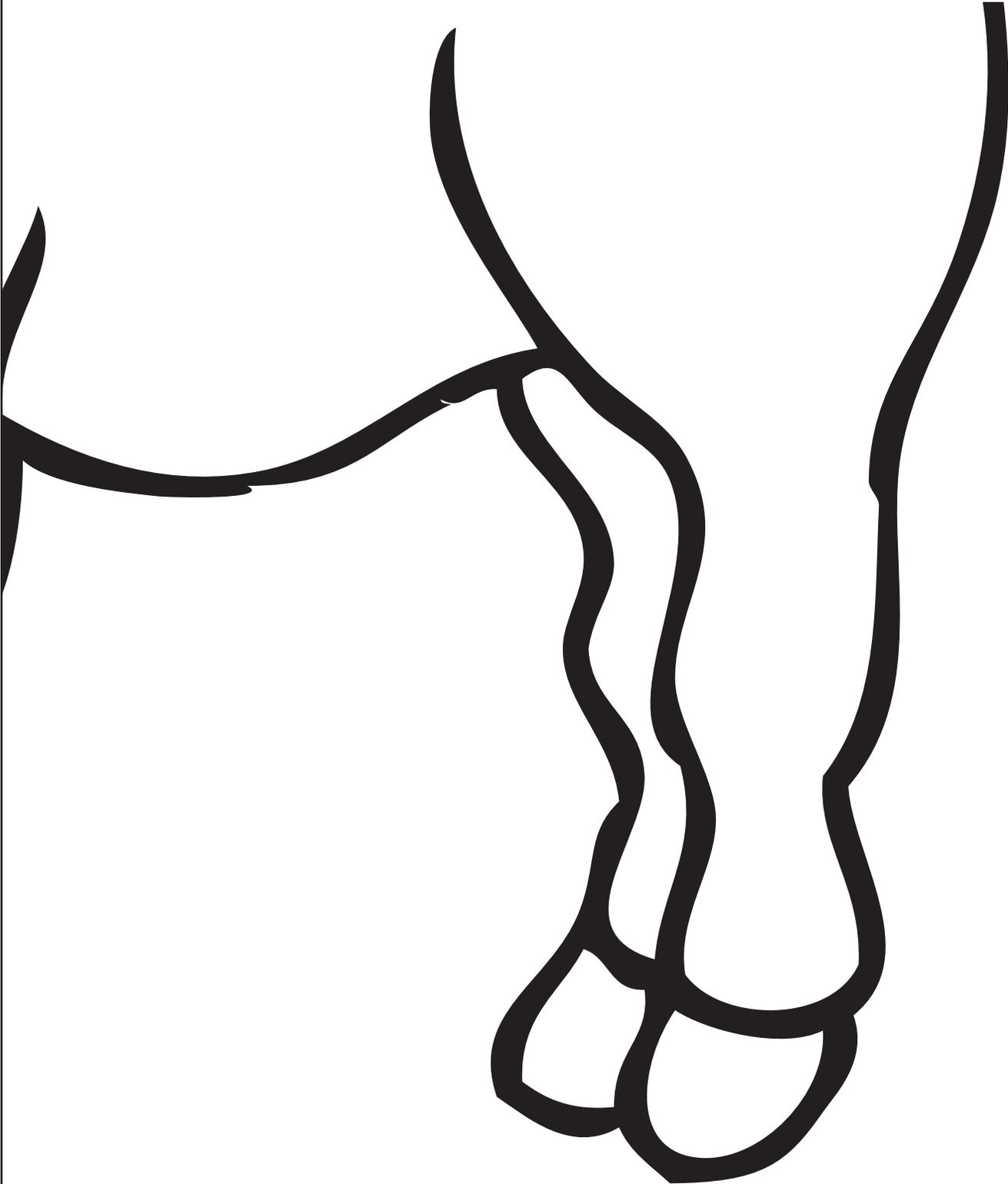
LESSON 26 | *Stick the Tail on Jesus' Donkey*



LESSON 26 | *Stick the Tail on Jesus' Donkey*



LESSON 26 | *Stick the Tail on Jesus' Donkey*



LESSON 26 | **Let's Color**



LESSON 26 | Jesus: The Servant and King

Bible Basis: Matthew 21:1 – 11; 26:17 – 29; Mark 11:1 – 11; 14:12 – 25; Luke 19:29 – 42; 22:7 – 19; John 12:12 – 19; 13:1 – 14:31

Bible Verse: Matthew 21:5: “See, your king comes to you. He is gentle and riding on a donkey.”

Bible Point: Jesus was a king, but he was also a servant. God wants me to serve others too.

Resource: *The Beginner’s Bible*

- “The True King” (pages 427 – 432)
- “Washing the Disciples’ Feet” (pages 437 – 441)
- “The Last Supper” (pages 442 – 445)

How to use This Page

This week, you can read the stories listed above in *The Beginner’s Bible* several times to help your child remember them. Use the Table Talk questions below to start a discussion around the dinner table, while driving in the car, or just about anywhere. The Living Faith activity is designed as a drama to help your child remember the Bible lesson. The Extra Mile provides interactive ways for your child to connect with the story.

TABLE TALK

1. Why didn’t Jesus wear a crown like other kings and ride a big horse? (*He was a different kind of king. He wanted to show people that it is important to be a servant to God and others.*)
2. Who made the palm branches and the palm trees? (*God.*)
3. At the Last Supper, Jesus told the disciples that he was going to heaven. What did he say he would do there? (*Prepare a new home for us!*)
4. Who didn’t want Jesus to wash his feet? (*Peter.*) Why? (*He didn’t want Jesus to serve him.*)

LIVING FAITH

Have your child select one of the Bible stories from this week and act it out for you as you read the story aloud from *The Beginner’s Bible*. To act out Jesus’ entry into Jerusalem, one child (or adult) can play the part of the donkey (walking on hands and knees) carrying Jesus. Throw a blanket across the donkey’s back. Jesus can wear loose pajamas,

bathrobe or a sheet, and a scarf on his head. Other children can wave palm branches and lay clothes on the floor for the donkey to walk over. Feather dusters, plastic branches, or real tree leaves can serve as palm branches.

To act out the foot washing, use a bucket or basin. If you use water, do the foot washing on a tile floor or outdoors rather than on a carpeted area. Jesus can tie a towel around his waist and take turns washing his disciples’ feet, using the towel to dry them. Peter can refuse to get his feet washed but agree to do so once he understands why.

When you come to the place(s) in the story where a Bible character speaks, instruct your child what to say. If possible, have your child perform the Bible drama for other family members in person, via Skype, or using a video camera.

EXTRA MILE

- Jesus said, “I’m going to heaven to prepare a wonderful new home for you.” So this week play the Heaven Game with two or more people. This is a variation of the Shopping Game, where the first person tells about an item she bought, and the next person then tells what the first person bought and adds an item he bought. The next person then tells what the first two people bought and adds an item, and the game goes on like this. As the list grows longer, the players must remember to list all the items.

For the Heaven Game, have the first player tell one thing he would like Jesus to get ready for him in heaven. The next player will tell that item and add an item. The next player will list

the first two items and then add their own. Continue going around the circle again, adding more things and remembering each other's items. It can help if you draw a picture or symbol for each item in order to jog the players' memories. Here is an example:

PLAYER #1: "I want Jesus to prepare a trampoline in heaven for me."

PLAYER #2: "I want Jesus to prepare a trampoline and a swimming pool in heaven for me."

PLAYER #3: "I want Jesus to prepare a trampoline, a swimming pool, and a roller coaster in heaven for me."

PLAYER #4: "I want Jesus to prepare a trampoline, a swimming pool, a roller coaster, and a sheep dog in heaven for me."

The game continues until someone can't remember all the items. Whoever forgets must leave the game. Declare the last person who can remember all the items to be the winner, or end the game when nobody else can think of something they want Jesus to prepare for them in heaven.