

BIBLE STUDIES FOR LIFE™

1

CONVERSATION

The Crowd Welcomed Jesus

MATTHEW 21:1-11

Jesus was traveling with His disciples to Jerusalem. As He came to the Mount of Olives outside a village called Bethphage, Jesus instructed two of the disciples to go into the village where they would find a donkey tied with a colt. Jesus told the disciples to untie the animals and bring them to Him. He told the men that if anyone asked what they were doing, they should say that the Lord needs the animals.

This happened to fulfill a prophecy (word of God) that was written hundreds of years before. This prophecy said, "Look! Your King is coming, riding on a young donkey."

The disciples followed Jesus' instructions. They brought the donkey and the colt, put their robes on them, and Jesus sat on top of them.

As Jesus rode, a large crowd of people spread their robes on the road. Others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road, too. Crowds of people went in front of Him and followed after Him. They shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!"

When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up and asked, "Who is this?"

The crowd replied, "This is Jesus from Nazareth of Galilee."

WEEKLY BIBLE VERSE: John 14:6

LIFE POINT: Jesus is the Messiah.



THE BIBLE MEETS LIFE

Parents, today your child learned that Jesus is the Messiah, the Savior of the world. Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey, fulfilling a prophecy from Zechariah. The people welcomed Him joyously, like a king. They knew that Jesus was special.

LIVE IT OUT

Talk with your child about some of her favorite ways to praise Jesus, such as Bible reading, singing, praying, and so forth. Incorporate those ways to worship into a family devotion.

LEVEL OF BIBLICAL LEARNING

God provided a plan for salvation because He loves me.

DAILY BIBLE READING

Sunday: John 14:6
Monday: Zechariah 9:9
Tuesday: Isaiah 61:1
Wednesday: Isaiah 11:1
Thursday: Jeremiah 23:5
Friday: Isaiah 53:3
Saturday: Malachi 3:1

TAKE IT FURTHER: Check out *The Crowd Welcomed Jesus* section of the Bible Studies for Life: Kids Family App.



My Way to PRAISE

There is a kind of praise that is all yours—something that helps you show love to God in a way no one else can. Need help finding it? Circle the statements that best describe you. You can praise Jesus because He is the Messiah!

Jesus told him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."
JOHN 14:6 CSB

UNIT VERSE

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.
JOHN 14:6 KJV



I love music, art, and drama.



I love to read and write.



I need to stay busy. I do not like being still.



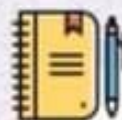
I feel great after finishing a job.



I think about things for a long time before I share aloud my thoughts.



I am comfortable speaking or performing in front of others.



I need lots of time alone. Quietness does not bother me.



I often do things for others without being asked.



I like to create and invent.

Count what you circled and determine which shape you circled the most. Look for the same shape below.



Read Psalm 77:11-13.

You may be someone who praises Jesus best through private prayer, Bible study, and journaling.



Read Psalm 150:3-6.

It is possible that you praise God best through art, music, or dance.



Read Matthew 25:35-40.

Your best way to praise may be through service to others.



THE TRIUMPHANT ENTRY

by Shelly Harris, Content Editor, Explore the Bible: Kids

Jesus was traveling to Jerusalem. As He came to the Mount of Olives outside of a town called Bethany, He gave a very special task to two of His disciples. Jesus told them to go into the village and find a young donkey that had never been ridden. The disciples were to untie the donkey and bring it back to Jesus. He told the men that if anyone asked what they were doing, they should say that the Lord needs it.

The disciples did what Jesus told them to and found the donkey. While they were untying the donkey, the donkey's owners asked what they were doing. The disciples answered as Jesus had told them and said that the Lord needed it. Then the disciples laid their robes on the donkey for Jesus to sit on. As Jesus rode along the road, many people spread out their robes on the road in front of Him. Other people spread leafy branches cut from trees. They were honoring Jesus the same way they would honor a king. They joyfully praised God. They shouted, "Hosanna! Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord. Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!" Some of the Pharisees in the crowd were upset by what was happening. They told Jesus to tell His followers to stop shouting. Jesus replied, "Even if they stopped shouting, the stones would cry out!"

— based on Luke 19:28-40; Mark 11:1-10

The Point:

GOD WANTS PEOPLE TO WORSHIP HIM.

Devotional:

PRAISE
HIM

The crowd praised Jesus. They were so excited! One day they would understand more about who Jesus was and the mission He was given. On this day, they praised what they did know about Him: He was a miracle worker. He brought the dead to life. He was the promised Messiah. They praised Him for what they did understand, and that praise was good.

We don't always understand everything about who Jesus is and the work He is doing in our lives. In those moments, we can praise Jesus for what we do understand about Him. What can you praise Jesus for today?

God,

We praise You for what we do understand about who You are,
and we praise You for being greater than we can fully understand. Amen.

JESUS WASHED THE DISCIPLES' FEET

by Carol Tomlinson, Content Editor, Vacation Bible School

It was just before the Passover meal. Jesus knew that it was almost time for Him to leave this world and be reunited with God His Father. Jesus loved His disciples and wanted to show them how much He loved them. Jesus knew that Judas Iscariot was going to betray Him. He got up from the table and tied a towel around His waist. He poured water into a bowl and began to wash His disciples' feet and then dry them with the towel wrapped around His waist. Simon Peter didn't want Jesus to wash his feet. Jesus said that if He didn't wash his feet, Peter would have no part with Him. Peter asked that his hands and head also be washed! Jesus told Peter that someone who has bathed doesn't need to wash anything except his feet.

Jesus knew who would betray Him and told Peter that he was clean, but not all of the disciples were clean. When He finished, He asked the disciples if they knew what He had done for them. He told them that He did that for them, and they should follow His example.

—based on John 13:1-17

The Point:

PEOPLE CAN OBEY JESUS AS A RESPONSE TO HIS LOVE.

Devotional:

ARE YOU A SERVANT?

What does the word servant mean to you? Does it make you think of someone who is lower than you, or someone who has to do everything you command? Do you immediately think of Jesus when you hear it?

A servant is someone who serves others with love and humility. Jesus was a servant. He did not consider Himself better than others. He wanted to show His disciples He loved them by washing their feet. He wanted to give His disciples (and us) a clear example of serving others.

Who can you serve today? Is there someone from school, church, in your community, or in your family that you can serve? It doesn't have to be something big or expensive or in person - a note or a smile can brighten someone's day. Make it a point to follow Jesus' example and serve others with love today.

Dear God,

Thank You for sending Your Son Jesus to be the ultimate Servant.
Thank You for the example He set. Help me to serve others with humility and love. Amen.

THE LAST SUPPER

by Allie Seale, LifeWay Kids Camps & Events Team, CentriKid Camps

In those days, the Jewish people gathered for feasts such as the Feast of Unleavened Bread and the Passover. People gathered together to remember how God had rescued His people out of Egypt. On the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, Jesus told the disciples to go into the city and tell a certain man that Jesus wanted to celebrate Passover at his home with the disciples.

When evening came, Jesus was sitting at the table with the disciples. Jesus said that one of the disciples would betray Him. He was talking about Judas Iscariot. While they were eating, Jesus took the bread, gave thanks, and broke it. He gave it to His disciples and said, "Take this and eat it; this is My body." In the same way, Jesus took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to His disciples. Then He said, "Drink from it, all of you." He told the disciples that His blood would be shed for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Jesus would be arrested and sentenced to be crucified. Jesus had done nothing wrong, but He died so that the Old Testament Scripture might be fulfilled.

— based on Matthew 26:17-30

The Point:

JESUS IS THE MESSIAH AND SAVIOR.

Devotional:

ULTIMATE
HERO

Have you ever known someone that you really looked up to? Maybe he was great at basketball? Maybe your hero is your mom or dad? Heroes come in all shapes, sizes, and ages. Did you know that there is only one hero that will never fail you? Jesus. He's the ultimate Hero, because He's God. He's the only One that can save you from your sins.

Christ died on the cross as a sacrifice for us. He came to Earth willingly because He wanted to save His people. God planned from the beginning of time to send His only Son to be the Savior and to die for sinful people. How beautiful is it that our God loves us that much?

Heavenly Father,

Thank You for always keeping Your promises. Thank You for delivering us from death by sending Your Son. I love You and praise You for Your goodness. Amen.

JESUS PRAYED IN THE GARDEN

by Kayla Stevens, Content Editor, Discipleship Team

Jesus and His disciples celebrated the special feast called the Passover. After the Passover feast, the disciples went out to a garden with Jesus. Jesus said that each of them would leave Him. Peter promised that he would never leave, but Jesus said, "Before you hear the rooster crow, you will deny me three times!"

Jesus prayed in the garden, but His disciples kept falling asleep. Soon, Judas arrived with soldiers who arrested Jesus! Jesus was taken to unfair trials. He was beaten and mocked.

— based on Matthew 26:36-51

The Point:

JESUS PRAYED TO GOD.

Devotional:

After Passover, Jesus went to a garden to talk with God. He knew what was about to happen. Jesus knew He was going to suffer and die on the cross for our sin. Before going to the cross, Jesus spent time talking with God the Father and preparing for what came next. Jesus trusted God's plan and obeyed His will.

Where do you go when things feel hard or scary? Where do you look when you need answers to things you don't understand? Jesus teaches us that God wants us to look to Him. When we pray, we can be honest with God. We can tell God what scares us or worries us. We can confess and repent from our sin. We can ask for His help. God wants us to spend time in prayer with Him, trusting Him no matter what.

Father,

Thank You that we can spend time with You in prayer. Please help us to trust Your plans and to obey You in all things. Thank You for loving us. Amen.

TRUSTING
HIS
PLAN

PETER DENIED JESUS

by Alli Quattlebaum, Graphic Designer, Bible Studies for Life: Kids

Two disciples followed Jesus as the soldiers took Him to the high priest. One disciple knew the high priest and went inside. He spoke to a servant who allowed Peter inside the courtyard. The servant girl asked if Peter was one of Jesus' disciples. Peter lied. He said, "No, I'm not."

Peter joined the other people standing around a fire. They asked him, "Aren't you one of this man's disciples?" Peter lied again, saying, "I am not!" One man who had seen Peter in the garden when Jesus was arrested asked, "Didn't I see you in the garden with Jesus?" As soon as Peter denied knowing Jesus a third time, the rooster crowed.

Later, after Jesus had been crucified and raised from the dead, Jesus met with Peter. Jesus showed Peter that He still loved him.

— based on John 18:15-18, 25-27; 21:15-17

The Point:

GOD WILL FORGIVE ME IF I ASK HIM.

Devotional:

IMPOSSIBLE
LOVE

Think of the last time a friend said or did something hurtful to you. Even remembering a moment like that can bring back sad feelings. It's hard to show love to those who have hurt us, even if they didn't mean to do it.

Sometimes when I think of how I've denied knowing Jesus in my life, I feel like He couldn't possibly love me. The Bible tells us that just like Jesus loved and forgave Peter, He loves and forgives us, too! Even when we make mistakes or disobey, Jesus is there to forgive us, calling us to repent and turn back to Him, and covering our sin with His impossible love.

Dear God,

Thank You for Your forgiveness. Thank You for Your love for me that covers all my sin. You are a great God, and You are bigger than my mistakes. Help me to follow Your truth.
Amen.

JESUS' TRIAL AND DEATH

by Lisa Jennette, Administrative Assistant, Kids Ministry Publishing

While Jesus and the disciples were praying in the garden, Judas arrived with an armed crowd, who arrested Jesus. They took Jesus to Caiaphas, the high priest and to Pilate, the Roman governor. The crowd wanted Jesus to be crucified. Pilate's soldiers mocked Jesus by putting a robe on Him, a crown made of thorns on His head, and a reed in His hand. They spit on Him, beat Him, and led Him to Golgotha, where they crucified Him.

It became dark as night in the middle of the day. Jesus cried out to God, "Why have You forsaken Me?" Jesus cried out again; then, He died.

—based on Matthew 26:47-50; 27:1-45

The Point:

JESUS DIED TO PAY THE PENALTY FOR MY SINS.

Devotional:

OUT OF LOVE

Think about how much your parents love you. What if one day you accidentally broke something expensive in a store and had to pay for it? You probably would not be able to. Out of their responsibility and great love for you, your parents would choose to make that payment on your behalf, even though it was your fault.

This is similar to Jesus choosing to die on the cross for us. He knew He would suffer and still He paid the price for our sins. He loves us more than our parents ever could. Jesus is God the Son. He is the only One who could ever save us from our sins. Jesus wanted us to be completely forgiven.

Dear Jesus,

Thank You for giving Your life for me on the cross. Thank You for loving me that much.
Amen.

JESUS' BURIAL

by Andrea Pace, Production Editor, Explore the Bible: Kids

Joseph of Arimathea went to Pilate and asked for Jesus' body. Joseph took the body and placed it in a new tomb. He rolled a large rock in front. The chief priests asked Pilate to put guards at the tomb.

— based on Matthew 27:57-66

The Point:

JESUS DIED ON THE CROSS AND GOD RAISED HIM FROM THE DEAD

Devotional:

GOD IS WITH
YOU

A few years ago I had to move away from my best friends. Moving away from my friends made me feel sad and lonely. After Jesus died, Jesus' friends were very sad. They probably thought they would never see Him again.

But we know from the Bible that Jesus did not stay in the tomb. He rose from the dead! Jesus' friends didn't have to be sad anymore, because He was with them. God raised Him from the dead.

When I felt sad and lonely, God was with me. He brought me new friends. God will always be there for you, too.

Dear God,

Thank You for sending Jesus to die for our sins. Thank You for bringing Him to life again.
Help me to remember that when I am sad, You are always with me. Amen.

JESUS IS ALIVE!

by Isaac Kierstead, Graphic Designer, LifeWay Kids Vacation Bible School

After the Sabbath, early in the morning, on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and another Mary went to view the tomb where Jesus had been buried. Suddenly, a strong earthquake shook because an angel came down from heaven. The angel rolled back the heavy stone from the entrance of the tomb. The angel, who looked like lightning and was wearing a robe of purest white, sat on the stone. The guards standing at the tomb were so afraid that they were like dead men and could not even move! The angel told the women not to be afraid. He knew they were looking for Jesus. The angel told them the best news ever. He said that Jesus was alive, just as He had promised. The angel told the women to go quickly to the disciples to tell them the good news. "Tell them Jesus has been raised from the dead!"

The women left quickly and joyfully. They ran to tell the disciples the good news that Jesus was alive. Suddenly, Jesus met the women and said, "Good morning!" The women ran to Him, took hold of His feet, and worshiped Him! Then Jesus told them, "Do not be afraid. Go and tell My brothers to go to Galilee. They will see Me there!"

— based on Matthew 28:1-10

The Point:

JESUS DIED ON THE CROSS AND IS ALIVE.

Devotional:

THE BEST SURPRISE

Do you like surprises? One year for my birthday, my parents left me at my grandparent's house to mow their lawn. I was disappointed and thought they had forgotten my birthday! When I went back home, there was a surprise party waiting for me. My parents had a plan the entire time to give me an amazing birthday.

When the women arrived at the tomb, they were surprised to find it empty. God had a plan the entire time for Jesus to defeat death so that we can forever have a relationship with Him.

Dear God,

Thank You so much for sending Your Son to save us from our sin by dying on the cross and rising again. In Your name we pray, Amen.