

Lesson #3-28 (Extended)

Holy Week

Luke 19:29-40; 22:1-6, 14-23; 23:32-47

3rd-6th

Key Verse:

“Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!”
Luke 19:38

Then he took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them, saying, “This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”
Luke 22:19

Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, “Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.” Having said this, he breathed his last.
Luke 23:46

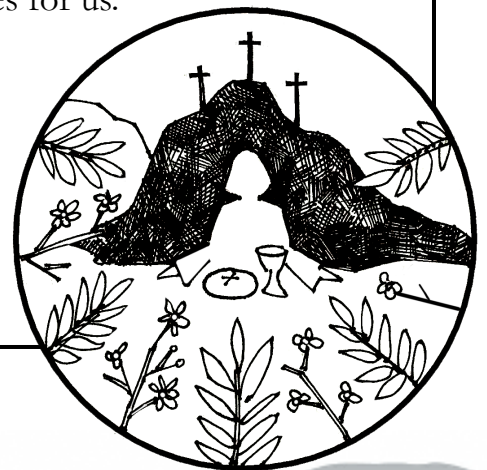
The Point:

We celebrate Jesus as our savior, who suffers and dies for us.

Making Connections:

Journey to the Cross

Bible Nuts & Bolts:



Activities a la Carte

Activities

Supplies

Into the Story

Palm Sunday

Participate in a Palm Sunday procession.

5 min.

- † Palm branches
- † Optional: large green paper, scissors

Happy and Sad

Talk about changing emotions.

5 min.

- † None

Bible Nuts & Bolts

The Messiah

Who is the Messiah?

10 min.

- † Bibles
- † Activity Sheet #3-28.A
- † Mural paper or white board
- † Markers

Learning the Story

Jesus' Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem

Retell the story in a news report, part 1.

15 min.

- † Bibles
- † Optional: video-recording devices and projection, costumes

Betrayal, Last Supper, and Crucifixion

Retell the story in a news report, part 2.

15 min.

- † Bibles
- † Optional: video-recording devices and projection, costumes

Activities a la Carte

Living the Story

Prayers of Praise

Pray joyfully from today's story.

10 min.

- † Mural paper
- † Markers

Prayers of Lament

Pray with sadness from today's story.

10 min.

- † Mural paper
- † Markers

Additional Activities

Hosanna

Listen to a song that reminds us of the story.

10 min.

- † Song "Hosanna" by Hillsong United
- † Music or video player
- † Optional: Internet-connected device

Blessed Is the King

Learn one of today's Key Verses by using hand motions.

10 min.

- † Activity Sheet #3-28.B

Palms to Crosses

Make a reminder of Holy Week.

15 min.

- † Activity Sheet #3-28.C
- † Palm fronds
- † Scissors
- † Optional: large green paper strips

Journey to the Cross

Complete your journey with Jesus.

10 min.

- † Journey to the Cross from Lesson #3-23 through #3-27
- † Markers or crayons
- † Masking or painter's tape
- † Optional: mural paper

Activities a la Carte

Additional Activities

Bible Book

Optional ongoing activity.

5 min.

- † Bible Book page (found at end of lesson)
- † Cardstock or plain paper
- † Pens or pencils
- † Markers or crayons
- † Optional: three-ring binders, hole punch

Sending the Story

5 min.

- † None

Background for Teachers

Note for leaders about this “extended” lesson:

As many congregations do not hold Christian education during Holy Week, this lesson is designed to be used flexibly to cover as much of the story of Jesus’ final week as you would like. You will not be able to cover all of the components in one week, but you can choose based on the time frame that you have. If you do meet during Holy Week, there are enough components, and the components are slightly more involved, so they can be used throughout the week.

Making Connections

Last week, we heard the story of Jesus’ visit to Jericho and his transformational interactions with a man who was blind and a despised tax collector. Two men from seemingly opposite ends of the social spectrum are noticed, welcomed, and healed by Jesus. On his journey to the cross, Jesus seeks to draw all people to himself. This journey reaches its climax as Jesus enters Jerusalem and continues through the events of Holy Week. He will continue to react with humility, compassion, and power to all those he meets.

Story Summary:***Holy Week***

In the first of today’s stories, Jesus prepares to leave Jericho and enter Jerusalem. In the city, a large crowd cheers his arrival, calling him a king and praising heaven for his mighty deeds. The crowds that gather at his entry include some Pharisees, religious leaders who are troubled by the disciples’ cries. They tell him to order the crowd to stop, but Jesus refuses, claiming that even the rocks would shout out his praises. Judas conspires with the Pharisees and betrays Jesus for money.

While celebrating Passover with his disciples, Jesus tells them about the events that will come, including his betrayal and crucifixion. This is the Last Supper that we remember in our celebration of Holy Communion.

As he is dying on the cross, the two men being crucified with him take different views of what is happening. One mocks Jesus, while the other seeks forgiveness from him. Even at his death, Jesus reaches out to comfort and forgive the criminal. At the moment of Jesus’ death, a Roman guard is turned from his disbelief to understanding. Those who encounter Jesus realize that they are encountering God.

The Point

We celebrate Jesus as our savior, who suffers and dies for us. After the long journey to the cross, Jesus has finally reached the end of the road. He must have been in mourning and heart-heavy at the events he knew lay ahead, yet he maintained his commitment to the journey. The excitement of the disciples does not change his self-awareness or his mercy, even as he faces his death.



Bible Nuts & Bolts:***The Messiah***

His disciples herald Jesus as a king. God had promised David that he would always have a descendant on the throne, but Israel had not had a king for the last 600 years. However, God promised through the prophets that a new, anointed king (messiah) would come. Many Jews at the time hoped for the coming of this messiah to re-establish the kingdom of David and free the people from Roman rule. But Jesus offered a different understanding of “messiah”—one that his disciples had a hard time accepting.

Spiritual Practice: Prayer

Just as prayer has marked the many previous weeks, it marks Jesus’ time in Jerusalem as he faces the upcoming events that lead to his crucifixion. Turning to God in prayer when our hearts are hurting or broken is a key component in the life of Christian faith.



Lesson Plan



Into the Story (5 minutes)

Palm Sunday

Participate in a Palm Sunday procession.

You will need:

- † Palm branches
- † Optional: large green paper, scissors

Before class:

1. Find palm branches for each student. If you do not have access to palm branches, you can make palm branches out of green construction paper.
2. Map out a parade route for your procession.

During class:

1. **Today, we are going to hear a story about what happened when Jesus entered Jerusalem. We celebrate this on Palm Sunday. Can you think of any Palm Sunday traditions or things that we might do in worship?** [*Procession, waving palm branches, singing special hymns, have a breakfast, etc.*]
2. **One of the things that many churches do on Palm Sunday is to have a procession. A procession is like a parade. Let's wave some palm branches and have a procession of our own.**
3. Hand each student one or two palm branches. Lead them through the procession route. Invite them to wave their palm branches, shout, and cheer while walking.
4. **What a wonderful procession! Soon we will read about the procession Jesus had into Jerusalem.**

Happy and Sad

Talk about changing emotions.

You will need:

† Nothing

During class:

1. **Our story today has a lot of different feelings in it. When we begin, people are happy and excited. What things make you happy?** Allow students to share.
2. **But then, people get angry. What things make you angry?** Allow students to share.
3. **Finally, people are sad. What things make you sad?** Allow students to share.
4. **Jesus and his friends go through a lot of different emotions during this final week of his life on earth. Jesus knows what it feels like to be happy, angry, and sad, as we will see as we dig deeper into this story.**

Bible Nuts & Bolts (10 minutes)

The Messiah

Who is the Messiah?

You will need:

- † Bibles
- † Activity Sheet #3-28.A
- † Mural paper or white board
- † Markers

Before class:

1. Make a copy of Activity Sheet #3-28.A. If desired, cut out each Bible reference and distribute to older students to look up one each.

During class:

1. **Do you know what the word “messiah” means? What do you think?** Allow students time to respond.
2. **The word messiah means, “anointed one.”** In ancient Israel, when a person became a ruler, they had oil poured on their head. That is called being anointed. During Jesus’ time, people believed that an anointed king would come who would bring freedom to people. God’s people were waiting for the messiah that the prophets said would come.
3. **Many people read the prophets and heard them talk about the coming of the messiah. What did the prophets say about who this messiah would be? Let’s find out.**
4. Hand out Bibles. Help students look up the Bible verses on Activity Sheet #3-28.A. Read each verse aloud.
5. After reading the verses aloud, make a list of words on the mural paper or white board that might describe the messiah.
6. **In our Christian tradition, we talk about how Jesus is the Messiah. How do the prophecies we just read relate to what we have learned about Jesus?** [*Jesus was born in Bethlehem, he arrives in Jerusalem on a donkey, he is a descendant of David.*]



Learning the Story (15 minutes)

Jesus' Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem

Retell the story in a news report, part 1.

You will need:

- † Bibles
- † Optional: video-recording devices and projection, costumes

During class:

1. Split students into small groups of three or four. Give each group a Bible.
2. **Today you are going to work with your small group to make a news report about the Bible story. Read the story with your group, and then put together your report. We will share them when everyone is ready.**
3. If needed, help groups turn to the story in Luke 19:29-40. Invite groups to read the story together, and then create their skits. If desired, make costumes available for groups to use in their skits. You may also encourage students to record their news reports to share with the group.
4. Invite each group to share their news reports with the rest of the class.
5. **How did the people following Jesus react when he entered Jerusalem?** *[They shouted and sang praises.]*
6. **How do you think Jesus felt when he entered Jerusalem? How would you feel?** *[Surprised, shocked, nervous, humble, etc.]*
7. **How do you think the disciples felt when they entered Jerusalem?** *[Surprised, excited, joyful, happy, etc.]*
8. **Do you think Jesus expected this entry into the city? Why or why not?** *[Accept all answers.]*
9. **When Jesus enters Jerusalem, he is met with much joy and praise. However, it is important to recognize how Jesus entered Jerusalem. He rode on a donkey—a symbol of peace. This procession was a fulfillment of some of the prophecies about the Messiah. Jesus was also humble when he entered Jerusalem. It was probably an exciting moment. But Jesus was not proud, and he did not think that he was better than anyone else. Instead, he rode in peacefully. He was humble.**

Betrayal, Last Supper, and Crucifixion

Retell the story in a news report, part 2.

You will need:

- † Bibles
- † Optional: video-recording devices and projection, costumes

During class:

1. Split students into small groups of three or four, or keep groups from part 1 of this activity. Give each group a Bible.
2. **Today, you are going to continue your news report about the Bible story. Read the next section of story with your group, and then put together your report. We will share them when everyone is ready.**
3. You might choose to divide groups to cover these sections of the story. If so, give one group Luke 22:1-6, Judas betrays Jesus; one group Luke 22:14-23, the Last Supper; and one group Luke 23:32-47, the crucifixion. If desired, make costumes available for groups to use in their skits. You may also encourage students to record their news reports to share with the group.
4. Invite each group to share their news reports with the rest of the class.
 - a. **How do you think Judas felt when he betrayed Jesus?** *[Confused, angry, frustrated, sad.]*
 - b. **How do you think the disciples felt at the last supper? How do you think Jesus felt?** *[Happy with friends, disappointed in Judas, sad about death.]* **How do you think Judas felt?** *[Angry, worried, guilty, etc.]*
 - c. At the crucifixion:
 - **How do you think the people and soldiers were feeling?** *[Angry—they mocked him.]*
 - **How do you think the other criminals felt at first?** *[One was angry, one believed.]* **How do you think the criminal felt when Jesus said that he would be with him in paradise?** *[Relieved, amazed.]*
 - **How do you think the disciples felt when Jesus died?** *[Sad, hopeless.]*
 - **How do you think the Roman soldier felt when he realized that Jesus was the Son of God?** *[Amazed, confused, full of wonder.]*



Living the Story (10 minutes)

Prayers of Praise

Pray joyfully from today's story.

You will need:

- † Mural paper
- † Markers

During class:

1. **In today's story, the people following Jesus shouted and praised God while Jesus was entering Jerusalem. What were some of the things they said?** *[Blessed, peace and glory in heaven, etc.]*
2. **There are many different kinds of prayer. Sometimes we pray for ourselves, or for others. Sometimes we pray to ask God for forgiveness. One type of prayer is a prayer of praise. Let's spend some time creating prayers of praise to God.**
3. Write "PRAYERS OF PRAISE" on the mural paper.
4. **Think of some things that you want to praise and thank God for today. Maybe you want to praise God for beautiful weather. Maybe you want to praise God for something that happened to your family or friends. Take a moment to think. Give students a minute to think.**
5. **One at a time, I invite you to come to our poster and write the things that you want to praise God for on it.**
6. Invite students forward to write their praises on the mural paper. Encourage each student to write one praise, although they can write more than one if they wish.
7. After everyone has written their praises, read each of them aloud to the group.
8. **We have so many praises to say to God. Let's end by praying and thanking God for all these wonderful things.**
9. End with a prayer. During the prayer, thank God for the specific praises on the board. Use the following, or say your own: **Gracious God, you are awesome. We know that you love us, and there is so much we praise you for. Today, we specifically praise you for [say praises here]. Help us remember to always praise you for the many blessings of our lives. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.**



Prayers of Lament

Pray with sadness from today's story.

You will need:

- † Mural paper
- † Markers

During class:

1. **In the second half of our story, things take a turn for the worse. What were some of the sad, angry, or hurtful things that happen?** [*Judas betrays Jesus, Jesus prepares to die, Jesus is mocked and crucified.*]
2. **We are going to create prayers of lament. These are prayers that express our sadness, anger, or frustration. God does not only want to hear our praise; God wants to hear our words of sorrow and fear, too. Let's spend some time creating sad prayers to God.**
3. Write "PRAYERS OF LAMENT" on the mural paper.
4. **What things make you sad today? What makes you fearful or concerned? What worries to you have today? Take a moment to think.** Give students a minute to think.
5. **One at a time, I invite you to come to our poster and write the laments that you want to share with God.**
6. Invite students forward to write their concerns on the mural paper. Encourage each student to write one phrase, although they can write more than one if they wish.
7. After everyone has written, read each of them aloud to the group.
8. **Just like we have much to praise God for, we also have many concerns. But God loves us always, and is there for us during difficult times. Let's end by sharing our laments with God.**
9. End with a prayer. During the prayer, lift the specific concerns to God. Use the following, or say your own: **Gracious God, you are always with us. We know that you love us, and hurt with us when we hurt. Today, we specifically ask you to be with us when [say laments here]. Help us to feel your presence and trust in you. Amen.**



Additional Activities

Hosanna (10 minutes)

Listen to a song that reminds us of the story.

You will need:

- † Song “Hosanna” by Hillsong United
- † Music or video player
- † Optional: Internet-connected device

Before class:

1. Find a copy of the song “Hosanna” by Hillsong United. If you do not have one on hand, you can find videos of this song using an Internet search for the title.

During class:

1. **Today we are learning about Jesus’ triumphant entry into Jerusalem. We already know that people sang and shouted praises when Jesus entered the city. One of the words of praises that we say is “hosanna.” The word “hosanna” is one expression of praise that was used during Jesus’ time.**
2. **We are going to listen to a song called “Hosanna.” As we listen to the song, think about how it relates to our story.**
3. Play the song “Hosanna.” If you have time, you may wish to play it a second time so that students can hear it twice.
4. **What are some words, phrases, or lyrics that remind you of our story today?**
5. **What are some other songs of praise that you can sing to God?**



Blessed Is the King (10 minutes)

Learn one of today's Key Verses by using hand motions.

You will need:

- † Activity Sheet #3-28.B

Before class:

1. Make one copy of Activity Sheet #3-28.B for each student.
2. Practice saying the Key Verse with the hand motions.

During class:

1. Give each student a copy of Activity Sheet #3-28.B.
2. Say the Key Verse together: **"Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!" Luke 19:38.**
3. Teach the words of the Key Verse, along with the hand motions.
4. Practice saying the verse several times together, with the hand motions found on Activity Sheet #3-28.B.
5. If you have time, challenge students to say the Key Verse with the motions on their own (without the help of their sheet).



Palms to Crosses (15 minutes)

Make a reminder of Holy Week.

You will need:

- † Activity Sheet #3-28.C
- † Palm frond
- † Scissors
- † Optional: large green paper strips

Before class:

1. Make copies of Activity Sheet #3-28.C, one for every few students.
2. Practice making a cross out of a palm frond.

During class:

1. Hold up a palm frond. **On Palm Sunday, we often use palm branches in our worship, especially in processions. Did you know that you can make a cross out of a palm branch? Today we are going to make one to help us remember the whole story of Holy Week.** Show students your sample cross.
2. Hand each student a palm branch and make available copies of Activity Sheet #3-28.C.
3. Walk your students through the process of making a palm cross, helping as needed.
4. **Take your palm cross home. Every time you look at your cross this week, remember Jesus' journey from Palm Sunday through his crucifixion.**



Journey to the Cross (10 minutes)

Complete your journey with Jesus.

You will need:

- † Journey to the Cross from Lesson #3-23 through #3-27
- † Markers or crayons
- † Masking or painter's tape
- † Optional: mural paper

Before class:

1. Gather the Journey to the Cross poster you began creating previously during the Sending the Story time. Hang it on a wall or place it in a location where your group can add to it.
2. If you did not start the Journey to the Cross poster previously, begin with a blank piece of mural paper.

During class:

1. Invite students to gather around the banner of paper.
2. **Today we finish our journey toward the cross. Over the last few weeks we have started creating a poster that shows different things that we have learned on this journey. Let's finish it off by adding lessons from today's story.**
3. Ask students to think of one thing that they learned from today's story. Ask them to either write or draw this one thing on the paper.
4. Invite a few students who are comfortable doing so to share what they learned.
5. **Jesus' entry into Jerusalem was a happy one. People shouted and praised God. Jesus' entry also reminds us that he is the Messiah. But then, the cheers turned into anger and cries as Jesus was crucified. Now, we wait in the darkness, knowing that Jesus' resurrection will come.**



Bible Book (5 minutes)

Optional ongoing activity.

You will need:

- † Bible Book page (found at end of lesson)
- † Cardstock or plain paper
- † Pens or pencils
- † Markers or crayons
- † Optional: three-ring binders, hole punch

Before class:

1. Make copies of this week's Bible Book page on cardstock or copy paper for each student.

During class:

1. Hand out Bible Book pages.
2. **What are some of the important things we have learned from today's story?**
[Answers will vary.]
3. **On the bottom of your page, please write one or two important things that you have learned from the story today. In the middle of the page, draw a picture from the story or illustrate one of the important things you've learned. Don't forget to put your name on the back of the page, please!**
4. Optional: Collect and three-hole punch the pages, and put them in individual binders for each student to be kept at church until the end of the year. If you wish, you can investigate other options for binding the Bible books through a local print shop at the end of the year instead of using a three-ring binder.



Sending the Story (5 minutes)

Prayer

Before ending class, make a point to come together to pray. Use the following or say your own prayer.

Jesus, we have walked with you on this journey. We celebrate with you as you enter Jerusalem to the shouts of praise, and we mourn with you as you suffer and die. Thank you for experiencing good times and sad times, and for being with us as we experience good and bad times, too. Amen.

The Messiah

Who is the Messiah?

Isaiah 7:14

Isaiah 9:7

Isaiah 53:5-6

Jeremiah 23:5

Micah 5:2

Zechariah 9:9

Zechariah 12:10

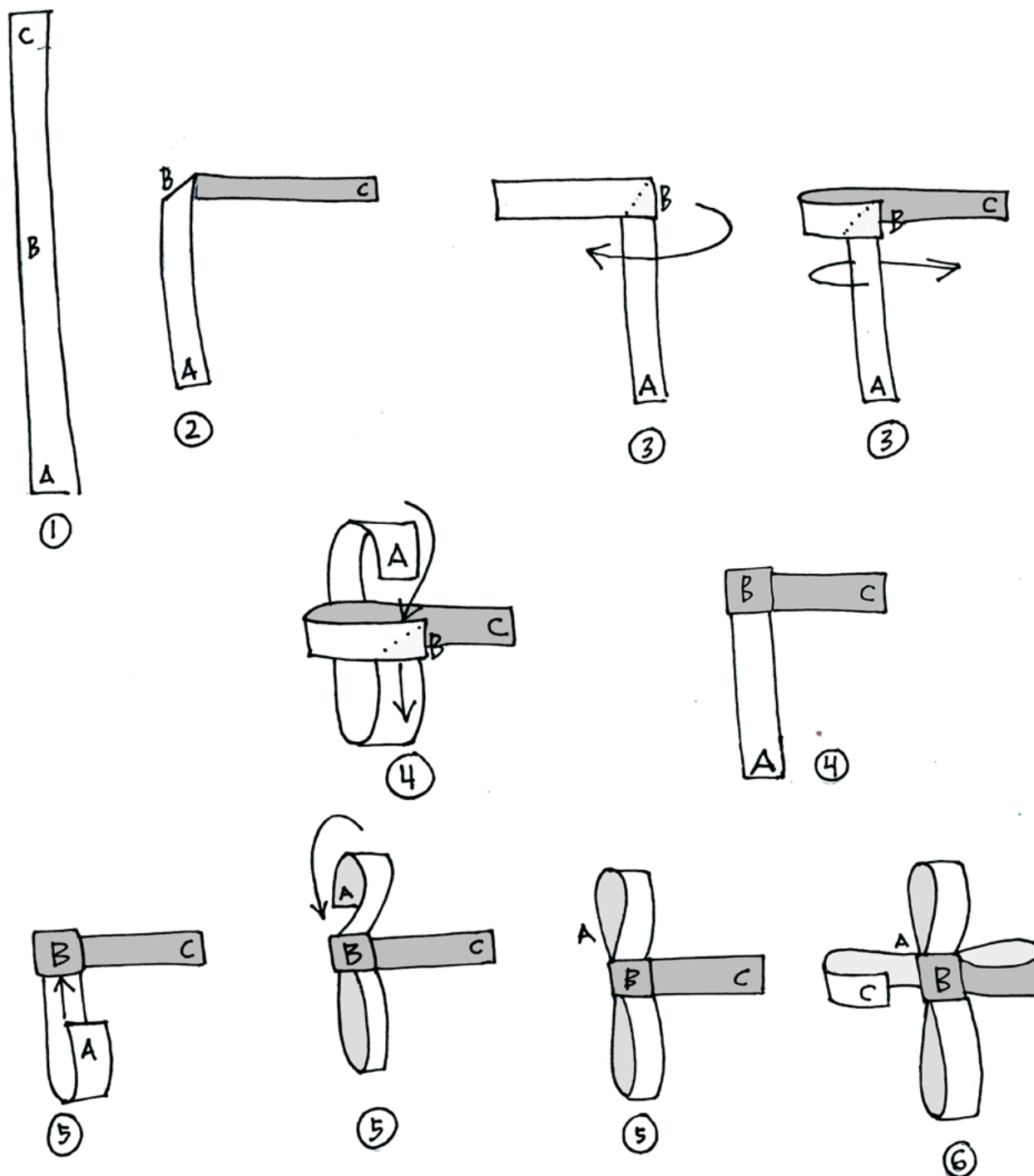
Blessed is the One

Learn part of today's Key Verse by using hand motions.

<u>Part of Verse</u>	<u>Hand Motion</u>
Blessed is the king	<i>Place your hands on top of your head with fingers extended up, like a crown.</i>
who comes	<i>Open your arms wide.</i>
in the name of the Lord.	<i>Raise your arms straight above your head, with your hands in the air.</i>

Palms to Crosses

Use palms to make a reminder of the Holy Week story.



Holy Week

Luke 19:29-40; 22:1-6, 14-23; 23:32-47

I Learned:



3rd-6th

The Story @ Home

Living the Word: Teaching Kids God's Story

Narrative Lectionary, Year 3 (2020-2021)

Lesson #3-28

Luke 19:29-40; 22:1-6, 14-23; 23:32-47

Last Week

Jesus teaches his disciples that he will soon suffer and die in Jerusalem. He then heals a man who is blind and welcomes the repentance of a rich tax collector named Zacchaeus (Luke 18:31-19:10).

This Week

Jesus enters Jerusalem on a donkey to great celebration. But later that week, Judas agrees to betray Jesus, Jesus shares a last supper with his disciples, and Jesus dies on a cross, mocked and rejected (Luke 19:29-40; 22:1-6, 14-23; 23:32-47).

The Point

We celebrate Jesus as our savior, who suffers and dies for us.

Story Summary

Holy Week

Jesus enters Jerusalem for the celebration of Passover and is greeted by cheering crowds. The Pharisees tell him to stop the crowds, but Jesus refuses, claiming that even the rocks would shout out his praises. Judas conspires with the Pharisees and betrays Jesus for money. While celebrating Passover with his disciples, Jesus tells them about the events that will come, including his betrayal and crucifixion. This is the Last Supper that we remember in our celebration of Holy Communion. As he is dying on the cross, one man crucified with Jesus mocks him, while the other seeks forgiveness. At the moment of Jesus' death, a Roman guard is turned from his disbelief to understanding.

Next Week

Jesus is laid in a tomb, but three days later women hear the good news from angels that Jesus is alive! The risen Jesus walks with two disciples to Emmaus, but they do not recognize him until later (Luke 24:1-35).

Bible Nuts & Bolts

The Messiah

The word Messiah means, "anointed one." In the Old Testament prophets, the Messiah was described as a king sent by God to save the people. Prophets of the Old Testament talked about the Messiah. From the time of the prophets, God's people waited for the messiah to arrive. In our Christian tradition, we view Jesus as the Messiah who comes to bring us freedom and liberation from our sins.

Practice: Prayer

There are many different types of prayer. We reach out to God in times of fear and sadness. We can also speak to God in a prayer of praise. As Jesus made his triumphal entry into Jerusalem, those who followed him into the city shouted and praised God. This week, spend some time praising God. Sing a favorite worship song or read a psalm.

Family Discussions

Use the questions below or other questions you think of to discuss today's Scripture reading (listed above) with your family.

- ✝ How do you think Jesus' disciples felt when they entered Jerusalem? How do you think Jesus' disciples felt later in Holy Week?
- ✝ What are some words or songs you can shout when you want to praise God?
- ✝ What are some words or songs you can say when you are telling God that you are sad or scared?

Family Devotions

As you hear and study these stories each week, consider what God has to say to you and your family. What is God's message to us? How should we respond?

Sunday—Read Luke 19:29-44

Jesus enters Jerusalem with triumph and praise. Gather objects from around your house that can make noise. Have your own triumphal procession.

Monday—Read Luke 19:45-48

Jesus enters the temple and makes it a house of teaching and prayer. What do you think the inside of the temple looked like? Draw or color a picture of the temple.

Tuesday—Read Luke 21:5-18

Jesus gives us an idea of what is to come. Use materials around your household to build what you think the temple looks like. Why would Jesus talk about the temple being destroyed?

Wednesday—Read Luke 21:25-38

Jesus tells us that the kingdom of God is coming—we must watch and wait for its arrival. Sit by a window and watch what happens outside. Is it easy or hard to watch and wait for something?

Thursday—Read Luke 22:1-27

Jesus and his disciples share a special meal together. Read the story of the Lord's Supper as you share a meal together.

Friday—Read Luke 23:32-47

Jesus is crucified. Jesus' journey in Jerusalem comes to an end with his trial and crucifixion. How many crosses can you find in your home? Gather some of these crosses or make some and create a display.

Saturday—Read Luke 23:44-56

Jesus dies on the cross and is buried in the tomb. Gather around your cross display. Say a prayer of thanksgiving for Jesus' life and death.