

Easter

JESUS IS KING

“A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road.”

- Matthew 21:1-11



Overview

WEEK 1: JESUS IS KING

"A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road." (Matthew 21:1-11)

WEEK 2: THE LAST SUPPER

"This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins." (Matthew 26:26-30)

WEEK 3: JESUS' DEATH ON THE CROSS

"But Jesus, again crying out loudly, breathed his last." (Matthew 27: 32-56; MSG)

WEEK 4: HE IS RISEN!

"But Peter jumped to his feet and ran to the tomb. He stooped to look in and saw a few grave clothes, that's all. He walked away puzzled, shaking his head" (Luke 24; MSG)



Schedule

TIME	ACTIVITY	NOTES
9:50-10:20 AM	Intro Activity	Easter Play-Doh Mats
10:20-10:40 AM	Bible Lesson & Worship	Matthew 21:1-11
10:40- 10:50 AM	Memory Verse	Deut. 10:17
10:50- 11:10 AM	Craft -OR- Game	Palm Branch Craft
11:10- 11:25AM	Closing Prayer	(Optional) Activity Ideas Page

Intro Activity

EASTER PLAY-DOH MATS

SUPPLIES:

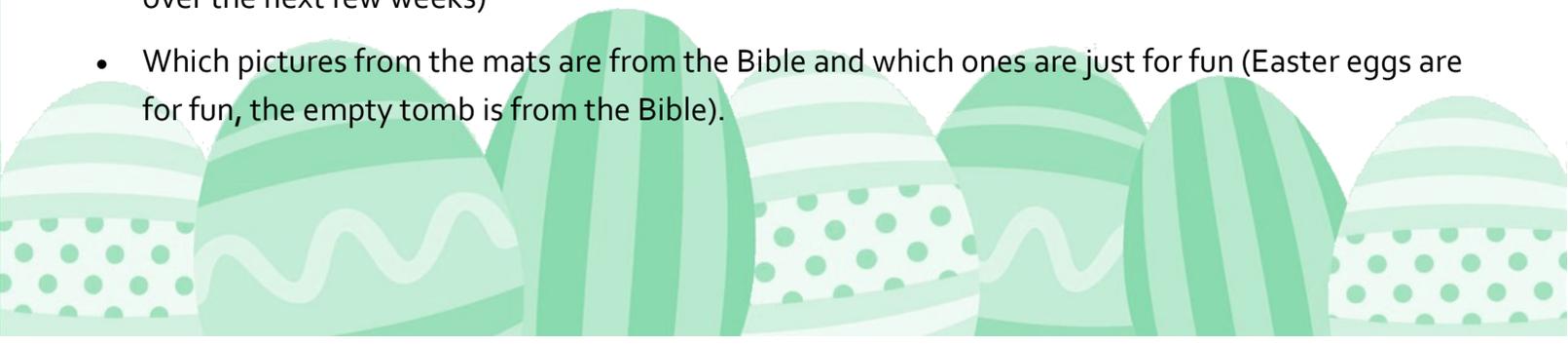
- Play-Doh Mats
- Play-Doh



DIRECTIONS:

Have play-doh and mats set out on the table for students as they arrive. Encourage students to make creations that go along with the mats provided. Ask the students:

- Based on the play doh mats, can they guess what they are going to be learning about today (and over the next few weeks)
- Which pictures from the mats are from the Bible and which ones are just for fun (Easter eggs are for fun, the empty tomb is from the Bible).



Bible Lesson

CLASS WELCOME:

- To help students understand the appropriate behavior in class, **review classroom rules** and ask for examples of what it means to be respectful, what it means to listen, etc.
- Afterwards welcome the students to class. Introduce yourself and write your name on the board.
- **Optional:** Go around the room and ask each student to tell you their name and their favorite ____ (It could be their favorite color, favorite dessert, favorite thing to do on the weekends, etc. Try to think of a different question to ask every week). Ask students to share their name even if you know their name. This helps new students to feel welcome and is a great way for them to learn who the other kids in the class are

WORSHIP:

Watch "I Believe in Jesus" by Saddleback Kids ([found at www.kidsgatecurriculum.com](http://www.kidsgatecurriculum.com)). Encourage kids to follow the dance motions that are on the TV.



BIBLE LESSON:

Have students move to the mat or rug in front of the TV. Ask if anyone knows why we celebrate Easter. After allowing the students to answer, respond by saying, **"Easter is a very important holiday for Christians. Easter is when we remember Jesus' sacrifice for us and that we are all offered new life in Him. Let's start by learning what Palm Sunday is and means to us."**

Read "The True King" (Pages 427-732) in the Beginners Bible, then watch "The Story of Easter (The Triumphal Entry)" found at KidsgateCurriculum.com

"Palm Sunday was important for a few reasons. One reason was because Jesus was fulfilling a prophecy (doing what God said would happen). Another reason this story is important is because it is when the people of Israel declared that Jesus was King.

That is something that all of us also get to decide today. Do you believe that Jesus is King? Why/ why not?

Let's stand up and watch another video that will teach us our memory verse for today"

Memory Verse

DEUTERONOMY 10:17

“HE IS THE GREAT GOD, THE MIGHTY AND AWESOME GOD ”

SUPPLIES:

- Memory Verse with Movements Video (www.kidsgatecurriculum.com)

DIRECTIONS:

Ask students to stand up and spread out from other students (We don't want anyone accidentally hitting each other). Watch the video until students can repeat the moves and words without help.

- "He is the great God, (**point both hands up**)
- the mighty (**muscle arm – right**)
- and awesome (**muscle arm – left**)
- God." (**point both hands up**)
- Deuteronomy 10:17 (**hold hands open like a book**)

Memory Verse (Preschool-1st Grade)



Class Activity

PALM BRANCH CRAFT

SUPPLIES:

- Different shades of green construction paper cut into strips
- Brown strip of construction paper (1 per student)
- Glue Sticks
- Construction Paper (Any color)

DIRECTIONS:

1. Pass out 1 piece of construction paper, 1 brown strip of paper, and glue to the students
2. Glue the brown strip of paper to the center of the construction paper (the bottom of the brown strip should be near the bottom of the construction paper)
3. Pass out the smaller green strips of paper– have students glue them near the brown branch to look like the palm branch (see image).
4. Write the students name and “Jesus is King!” on the paper.
5. Say, “**The Bible tells us that people put palm branches down on the ground and waved them as Jesus walked by. It was their way of showing that they believe Jesus is the King. Do you believe Jesus is King? Should we wave our palm branches around?**”



Closing Prayer

DIRECTIONS:

1. Complete prayer time with the class by asking students to think of something they can:
 - Thank God for (friends, pets, something fun from the week, etc.)
 - Ask God to help them with (getting along with friends, helping friend/ family member/ pet to feel better, etc.)
 - Tell God they are excited about (relative visiting, party, plans for the day, etc.)
2. Write down the student requests to help you remember them during the prayer.
3. Pray for the group, saying the requests the students came up with in class and finish the prayer by thanking God for every student (If you are able, thank God for something specific about each student).

Parent Pickup

When church is over and parents begin to arrive:

- Make sure students have their shoes on, as well as all of their belongings and crafts from today
- Match the numbers on the parent nametag with the numbers on the student nametag
- Communicate with the parents and let them know how their child did in class today (Did they struggle to follow directions? Did they enjoy the activities? Were they wonderful?)
- Briefly talk about what you learned in class. Direct parents with follow up questions to the Kidsgate website: www.kidsgatecurriculum.com where they can download previous lessons, sign up to volunteer, or contact the people in charge.