LESSON 20

JESUS ENTERS INTO JERUSALEM



Aim: **To show the children how Jesus, the King of all kings, entered Jerusalem. We can look forward to the coming of his kingdom on earth one day.**

Scripture Reading: **Matthew 21:1–11; Isaiah 11:1–9**

Memory Verse: **Psalm 1:6**
[T]he Lord watches over the way of the righteous …

PRESENTING THE LESSON

STARTING POINT

Families are important. We quickly get to know the members of our own family. As we grow up we also hear about our family's history and where they used to live.

MAIN POINTS OF THE LESSON

1. David was the greatest king of Israel. God told him that his family would continue to rule over Israel if they remained God's faithful servants (1 Chron 28:7).
2. About 1 000 years after David's death a baby was born to a young woman called Mary. Her husband, Joseph, was a descendant of King David. God chose David's family to be the human family of his own Son, Jesus Christ, the King of kings.
3. During his life on earth Jesus taught his disciples about the kingdom of God (Matthew's Gospel calls it the kingdom of heaven). Many people expected Jesus to become king in Jerusalem, ruling all Israel just like David did and expelling all the foreigners that ruled over them.
4. One day Jesus entered Jerusalem and was welcomed by the people, but he rode on a donkey. Great earthly kings rode on camels or horses. Donkeys were used to carry goods, not important people. Today, state presidents and important leaders ride in big grand cars, not in cheap little cars or on bicycles! Jesus was the greatest Person ever to serve God, but he was humble. He did not use possessions to show his power. He sent two disciples to fetch a donkey for him to ride into the city (Matt 21:1–2).
5. The disciples had instructions to say the donkey was for their Lord's use if anyone asked what they were doing. These events would fulfil what God's prophets had foretold many years before (21:3–6).
6. Crowds gathered and greeted Jesus, shouting, "Praise to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Praise God!" (21:7–11).

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Show Picture 20.

The children could act out this part of the story – some waving branches and others laying down clothing for the donkey to walk on. Everyone can sing a song of praise and welcome to the King of all kings on earth.

Our Response to the Story

The people of Jerusalem did not really understand the kingdom Jesus was talking about. He wants us to be part of his kingdom by becoming part of his family, as children of God (Jn 1:12).

One day Jesus will return as King of all the earth. He will set up a kingdom of peace (Is 11:1–9). Only those who belong to God's family will have a place in that wonderful kingdom.

Instil the Memory Verse



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