

WEEK 1 - PALM SUNDAY

PRESCHOOL LESSON



Need to Know: *Jesus Loves Me*

Bible Story: *Jesus' Death & Resurrection (John 12:12-15; Luke 22-24)*

Circle Up



1. WELCOME kids to church, and TELL them that today we are getting ready for our Easter EGG-stravaganza that is going to happen next week!
2. SAY: *My name is (YOUR NAME), and I will be your leader today!* (SHOW and WAVE palm branch.) *When the palm branch comes to you, wave it as you tell us your name.*
3. PASS the palm branch, and ALLOW kids to wave it as they say their name.
4. After everyone has been introduced, SAY:
 - *Great job! Waving the palm branch reminds me of the people in the Bible that were so excited to see Jesus come to their town. They waved their palm branches as He came through because they knew He was special!*
 - *Jesus loved them, and Jesus loves you! Let me hear you say that after me:* (PAUSE to allow kids to repeat)
 - Jesus* (both hands point up)
 - Loves* (hug self)
 - Me* (thumbs to chest)

Read the Bible

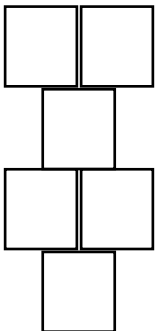


1. SAY: *As I share today's Bible story with you, we are going to make something you can take home to remember this special story!*
2. HAVE kids get ready to hear the Bible story by clicking on their listening ears and putting on their special eyes.
3. READ the Bible Story Guide, giving kids sticker scenes and stickers as directed during the story.

Let's Practice



Hopscotch Formation Example



1. SAY: *Now we are going to play a game to celebrate how much Jesus loves you and me!*
2. PLACE Hopscotch Cards in the center of the group, in hopscotch formation. (See example on the left.)
3. ALLOW each child to roll the foam die to see how many spaces to hop.
4. When the child hops that many spaces, READ a statement/question from the Hopscotch Leader Guide.
5. After the child responds, HAVE him/her hop back and sit back down.
6. CONTINUE to play until each child has had a turn to roll the die and hop. Then, SAY:
 - *Jesus loves you so much! Let me hear you say this after me:* (Pause to allow kids to repeat)
 - Jesus* (both hands point up)
 - Loves* (hug self)
 - Me* (thumbs to chest)

Memorize It

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1. SAY: *I do not want you to ever forget that Jesus loves you, so let's all stand up and play a fun game to help us remember!*
 2. HAVE kids repeat, "*Jesus loves me*," after you while doing these fun things:
 - Hop like a bunny
 - Flap wings like a chick
 - Wave a pretend palm branch in the air
 - Shake your bunny tail
 - Pat legs like a donkey walking
 - Pretend to eat candy
 - Put fingers up like bunny ears
 - Spin in a circle
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Let's Pray

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PRAY with your group, having them repeat after you in short phrases:

- *Jesus, thank You for loving me so much that You died and came back to life! Thank You for my snack. I love You. Amen.*
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Stay Together

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1. **SANITIZE** hands, and **PASS OUT snacks**.
2. **KEEP** kids engaged until they are checked out by doing any of the following activities:
 - GIVE each child a **Coloring Sheet** to **color** as you ASK them:
 - *Did you have fun at church today?*
 - *What did you learn?* (Jesus Loves Me)
 - PLAY "Hopscotch" again. This time, when kids hop to the correct number, ASK any of the following:
 - *What is one thing you love to eat?*
 - *Who is one person you love?*
 - *Do you think Jesus loves you all the time?* (He does!)
 - *What is your favorite color?*
 - *What is your favorite candy to eat?*
 - *What is your favorite toy?*

REMIND kids that Jesus loves us so much that He makes sure we can enjoy all the things we love and the things that are our favorites!

- PLAY "Simon Says" with the following moves, or come up with your own:
 - Hop like a bunny
 - Chirp like a chick
 - Wave a pretend palm branch in the air
 - Pat legs like a donkey walking
 - Pretend to eat candy
 - Spin in a circle