



Home Church Adventures!

Well hello to you!

Sundays stuck at home as a family don't have to mean no church! Jesus said "where two or three gather in my name, there I am with them." (Matthew 18:20) - and this means at home too! This resource has been created to encourage you and your children to worship and engage with God even when you can't make it to a service. After all, church is the PEOPLE not the PLACE!

*Gather the family together, maybe round the dining table or in your livingroom. Turn off all your electronic devices (tv, gaming, mobiles, - although you might want to use them for some of the video or music clips). Don't worry if you start the session and being prompted to change direction - go with it and enjoy where the Holy Spirit takes you together! **Have fun!***

How to use Home Church Adventures...



Included are a range of different ideas - pick and choose what suits your family and the resources you have. Some involve watching something online, some using physical stuff you might have around the house, some might involve printing off the activity sheet (if you can). However, don't let it stop you from getting creative and coming up with your own ideas, games, ways of telling the story, ways of having fun together.



Always pray before you start and ask the Holy Spirit to guide you and lead your conversations.



'Home Church' doesn't need to be long, and it doesn't need to be done all in one session (why not split it over a day into several parts?).

REMEMBER: Each family is different! God made each of you in your family unique in their giftings from oldest to youngest. Listen to each other, involve each other and build each other up. And **DON'T FORGET TO HAVE FUN!**



Palm Sunday!

In this session you might need:

- Plain paper & green paper
- Colouring pens, pencils or crayons
- Child-friendly Glue stick or PVA glue
- Device to play Youtube videos
- 'Tree' shaped twig, pot and small stones/sand
- Junk modelling bits
- Baking ingredients and equipment (see attached recipe)
- Drinking straws, small balls of scrunched up paper, or pingpong balls
- A computer printer (to print off the activity & colouring sheets)



PRAY: (why not ask for a volunteer to pray! Asking God to bless and speak to you today)

Dear Lord Jesus,

Thank you for today. Thank you that you love each of us and only have good things for us. Would you please speak to us and help us to listen to what you say. Amen.



WORSHIP:

You could...

>**'PALM' LEAF WORSHIP WORDS:** On a green (or white, and colour in green at the end) A4 paper, draw round each other's hands. Cut them out to make 'Palm' leaves. On each leaf write or draw praise words that say who Jesus is! (e.g. King of Kings, my friend, Saviour etc.) You could even use them for a worship parade later (see below)!

>**PLAY MUSIC:** clips from Youtube of worship songs, or music from Spotify or a CD, and sing along. Ideas:
Blessed be the name of the Lord (the name of the Lord is a strong tower)
Our God is a great Big God
Sing along, make up dance moves or have a worship 'parade' around the house!

>**HAVE A FAMILY JAMMING SESSION:** play instruments you have, or even make some from junk (like cardboard box drum, or gently tapping a mug!). Have fun being silly - God loves a 'cheerful giver'!



THE STORY:

>**READ** the story from the Bible. (we recommend NIV or International Children's Bible):

Luke 19 v 28 - 40 Jesus rides into Jerusalem as a King

(OR read the story from a Bible picture book you already have.)

>or **WATCH** a story cartoon on Youtube.

On Youtube, search for '**Saddleback Kids The Story of Easter(triumphal entry)**' or '**God's Story: Palm Sunday**' (Crossroads Kids' Club)

Q: Which is your favourite part of the story? Why?

Q: If you saw Jesus riding by, what would you shout or thing would you wave?

When Jesus rode into Jerusalem it must have been so exciting! All the crowds, singing, praising God, waving palm branches and putting their coats on the ground. Just like a big street party! Jesus had special friends who had travelled with him and seen him doing and saying all sorts of amazing things. They knew Jesus was special. What they hadn't quite realised yet was just how special Jesus was and what would happen next! Jesus knew that Father God had big plans. Jesus knew that sad things would have to happen to him, but God would win in the end! (...but that's for the next session!!)



Palm Sunday!



ACTIVITIES with stuff:

- > **MAKE PALM LEAF BISCUITS:** Using a simple biscuit recipe (they can be found on the internet, or use the one attached!) cut out palm leaf shapes. Press lines into the top to make the leaf pattern before you bake. Enjoy munching and sharing!
- > **HAVE A BLOW ALONG RACE!** Roll up some small balls of paper, or use pingpong balls. Place them in a line. Mark a 'finish' line. Give each competitor have a straw. On the word 'Go!' move the ball of paper by blowing through the straw. The winner is the person who can blow their ball across the finish line first!
- > **MAKE PAPER PALM LEAF BLESSINGS:** Cut out green paper in the shape of palm leaves, write on them a 'Happy Easter' message for your neighbours, and stick in your window.
- > **CREATE AN EASTER 'TREE':** Find a clean 'tree shaped' twig from your garden, or look out for one if you go for a walk! Fill a pot or large jamjar with sand or small stones. Stand the twig up in the jar or pot. Decorate the tree - with hand drawn decorations, painted pretend eggs, or anything else lovely!



ACTIVITY with printout:

- > **PRINT OFF** the fun sheet and/or colouring sheet and enjoy completing.

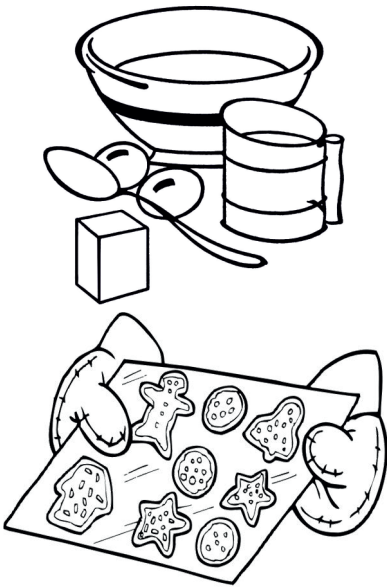


PRAYER / RESPONSE:

- > **EACH PERSON SHARE :**
 - ...one way you can describe who Jesus is (like 'my friend', 'God's Son')
 - ...then talk to Jesus, pray. Tell him all the wonderful things you think about him and say 'Thank you'.Remember: Every answer is important to God, so listen to each other and encourage each other.

You could...
- > **SING AND DANCE:** On Youtube find 'Hosanna Rock - instructional' . Have a go at dancing and singing along!
- > **MAKE A MODEL:** Use junk modelling to make a model of Jesus riding on a donkey.
- > **DRAW A PICTURE OF JESUS:** Draw a picture of Jesus on Palm Sunday. Write round it a prayer of thanks to Jesus for being our Saviour and King!

Simple Palm leaf biscuit recipe



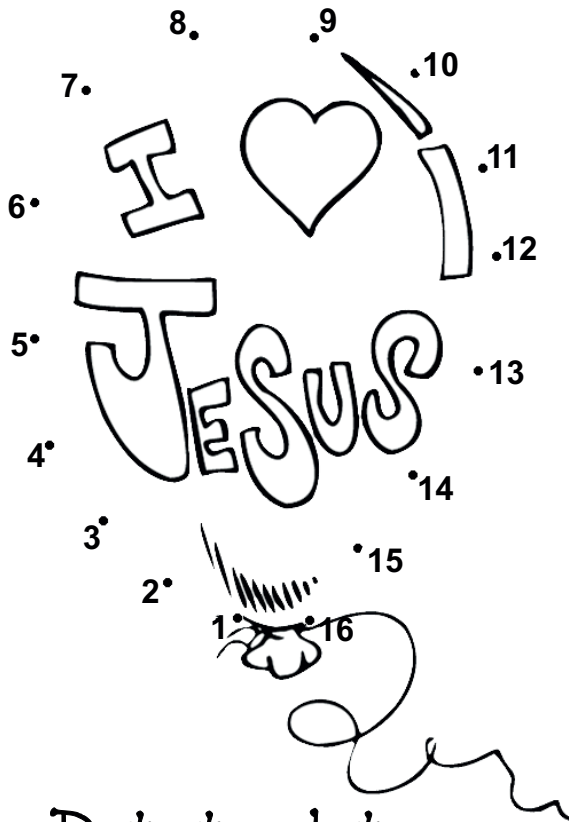
YOU WILL NEED:

250g Butter (softened)
140g Caster sugar
300g Sifted plain flour
1 egg yolk
2tsp vanilla extract

METHOD:

- 1) Beat butter and sugar together until light and fluffy.
- 2) Add egg yolk, vanilla and flour. Beat together.
- 3) Knead dough into a ball. Put dough ball in a bowl, cover and chill in fridge for 30mins.
- 4) Roll out dough to about thickness of £1 coin.
- 5) Use knife to cut dough into palm leaf shapes.
- 6) Lay biscuits on greased baking tray with gap between each.
- 7) Bake at 180C (Gas Mark 4) for 12-15 mins.
- 8) Cool on rack. When cool, decorate with icing if wish!

Funsheet: Palm Sunday!



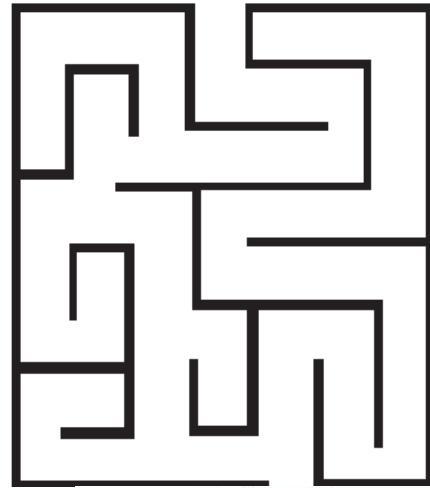
Dot-to-dot

Join the dots in number order to reveal the hidden shape!

Amazing Maze!



Can you find a way through the maze to get Jesus to Jerusalem?



Jerusalem

Wordsearch

Hidden in this grid are 7 words to do with Palm Sunday. Can you find them all?

- COAT
- DONKEY
- JESUS
- KING
- PALM
- RIDE
- SUNDAY

W	J	L	S	U	N	D	A	Y
E	N	K	Z	A	R	H	O	J
E	D	D	E	S	D	B	E	A
Z	W	I	O	N	P	K	S	U
T	A	C	R	N	I	A	Z	V
A	L	D	Y	N	K	G	L	E
O	D	J	G	Z	A	E	H	M
C	Q	H	G	J	N	Q	Y	X
S	Y	R	J	E	S	U	S	H

