

WEEK 1 - PALM SUNDAY PRESCHOOL LESSON



Need to Know: *Jesus Loves Me*

Bible Story: *The Triumphal Entry & The Last Supper (Mark 11:1-10, Matthew 26:17-30)*

Circle Up



1. WELCOME kids to church, and TELL them that we are getting ready for our Easter EGG-stravaganza that is happening soon!
2. SAY: *My name is (YOUR NAME), and I will be your leader today!* (SHOW zip top bag with candy inside) *I have a sweet treat to give you and a question to ask you. But first, let's clean our hands for our treats.*
3. GIVE each child hand sanitizer, and SANITIZE your hands also.
4. HAVE each child say his/her name aloud and GIVE him/her one piece of candy. ASK the following question based on the color candy the child received:
 - Red - *Have you ever hunted for Easter eggs?*
 - Orange - *Would you rather eat jelly beans or chocolate?*
 - Yellow - *Would you rather have a pet duck or a pet chick?*
 - Green - *Have you ever dyed eggs to make them all kinds of different colors?*
 - Purple - *If you found a golden egg, what would you want to find inside—a toy or candy?*
 - Pink - *What's your favorite thing to do at Easter time?*
5. After all kids have been introduced and gotten their candy treat, SAY:
 - *Thank you for helping all of us know something special about you! Jesus loves you, and He made you super special.*
 - *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)

Read the Bible



1. SAY: *There's a story in the Bible about a group of people who loved Jesus and wanted to make Him feel special. We are going to play a game to find out what they did and why they did it.*
2. GIVE each child one Game Board and one game piece. TELL them to put their game piece on the star.
3. HAVE kids get ready to hear the Bible story and play the game by clicking on their listening ears and putting on their special eyes.
4. SHOW and READ the Bible Story Cards to the group, allowing kids to move their game pieces to the correct spaces on their Game Boards.

Let's Practice



1. SAY: *We're going to play a game to celebrate how much Jesus loves you and me!*
2. PLACE Matching Cards in the center of the group, logo side up.
3. ALLOW each child to have a turn using the sticky bunny to select two Matching Cards.
 - If Cards do match, READ the back of the Card.
 - If Cards do not match, TURN the Cards back over and ALLOW the next child to have a turn.
4. CONTINUE to play until each child has had a turn or as time allows. 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)



If the child is unable to use the sticky bunny to select two Matching Cards, HAVE him/her point to the Cards he/she wants to select.

Memorize It

4

1. SAY: *I don't 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 stand and 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

5

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

- *Jesus, thank You for loving me so much. Thank You for dying on the cross. Thank You for coming back to life! Thank You for my snack. I love You. Amen.*
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Stay Together

6

1. SANITIZE kids' hands and PASS out **snacks**.
2. KEEP kids engaged in Small Group until they are checked out by doing the following activities:
 - PLACE the **crayons** in the center of the group. HAVE kids color their **Game Boards**. As kids color, ASK the following:
 - *What is one thing you love to eat?*
 - *Who is one person you love?*
 - *Do you think Jesus loves you all of the time? He does! Jesus loves you so much that He makes sure you can enjoy all the things and people you love!*
 - PLAY "Simon Says" with the following moves, or come up with your own. *NOTE: MAKE SURE to say, "Simon Says," before every motion.
 - *Simon says to hop like a bunny*
 - *Simon says to chirp like a chick*
 - *Simon says to wave a pretend palm branch for Jesus*
 - *Simon says to pat your legs like the sound of a donkey walking*
 - *Simon says to pretend to eat candy*
 - *Simon says to spin in a circle*