



Basic Truth: Jesus wants to be my friend forever.

Key Question: Who is alive?

Bottom Line: Jesus is alive.

Memory Verse: "I am alive for ever and ever!"

Revelation 1:18

Bible Story Focus: We celebrate Jesus because He is special.

Palm Sunday- Matthew 21:1-11, 15-16

Memory Verse Activity:

What You Need: No supplies needed

What You Do:

Before the Activity: Say the Memory Verse and do the following motions in front of your preschooler. "I am alive (make rainbow motion with your hands) for ever and ever!" (Twirl around.) Revelation 1:18. (Open your hands like a book.)

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "We learned a brand new Memory Verse, for the month of April, today. It says, "I am alive (make rainbow with your hands) for ever and ever!" (Twirl around.) Revelation 1:18." (Open your hands like a book.)

During the Activity: "Now let's do it all together! Are you ready? Now, let's say our memory verse in different ways. What kind of voice would you like to try? (Do several rounds of this as interest allows.)

After the Activity: "Our Memory Verse tells us that **[Bottom Line] Jesus is ALIVE! Who is alive? [Bottom Line] Jesus is alive!**"

Hand Print Palm Branches:

Made to Create: An activity that allows preschoolers to review the Bible story, Bottom Line, or memory verse by creating a craft

What You Need: Construction paper (green if possible or you could use white and color green,) scissors, tape, glue stick, pencil, and popsicle stick or ruler (one per child.)

What You Say:

Before the Activity: "We heard a really amazing story today. When Jesus came to town, the people were so excited to see Him. What did they wave as He entered Jerusalem? That's right, they waved palm branches and said, 'Hosanna!'"



During the Activity: “So, let’s make some palm branches of our own! We are going to make them out of your handprints. First, we will trace your hand several times on different sheets of this paper. Then we will cut them out and glue them together on this stick! We may even use them for another activity later!”

After the Activity: “These palm branches are awesome! Can you imagine what it must have been like to see Jesus riding on a donkey and people waving their palm branches at Him? So amazing. So help me remember, **Who is alive? [Bottom Line] Jesus is alive!**”

Triumphal Entry Parade:

What You Need: Handprint palm branches from previous activity, coats or colorful towels, and your whole family.

What You Do:

Find a spot in your house for the parade. Encourage your preschoolers to use their palm branch they made and pick a coat or towel, too. Let one person pretend to be Jesus riding in on a donkey. Let the children act out waving the palm branches or laying down the coats as the child, pretending to be Jesus, walks by. Encourage them to say, “Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus!”

Every thirty seconds or so, stop your kids with two claps and say, “SWITCH!” Children must put down what they have and choose a different prop to play a different role for each round.

What You Say:

Before the Activity: “When Jesus came to town, the people were so excited to see Him. What did they wave as He entered Jerusalem? Yes, they waved palm branches and said, ‘Hosanna!’ What did they lay on the road? Yes, they put down their coats along the path. And Jesus entered riding on a what? Yes! A donkey.”

During the Activity: “Let’s pretend we were there that day! As the pretend Jesus and donkey walk by, say, ‘Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus!’ If you have a palm branch, wave it! When I clap twice like this and say, ‘Switch,’ I want you to switch what you have with someone else.”

After the Activity: “That was so fun! Can you imagine what it must have been like to see Jesus come to your own town? What a reason to celebrate. We celebrate because Jesus is special. **[Bottom Line] Jesus is alive** today, and He loves it when we celebrate Him! **Who is alive? [Bottom Line] Jesus is alive.**”

Prayer Time:

“Dear God, we are so excited that Jesus is alive and that we can celebrate Him just like they did a long time ago on that very first Palm Sunday. Thank You for sending Jesus to be our friend forever. Help us remember that we can say, ‘Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus!’ every day! We love You, God. In Jesus’ name, Amen.”