

Palm Sunday Fun!

By: Tara Davis



Palm Sunday is this weekend, and with it, we enter into Easter week! Palm Sunday is a perfect opportunity to be intentional about helping our children prepare their hearts for the true celebration of Easter. It's not all about the eggs, bunnies, and Honey Baked Ham! The more we can encourage our children to turn their eyes away from the world and focus on Jesus, the better. Let's do this, mamas!

This activity is primarily geared toward younger children, but check out the activities for older kids on the next page.

MAKE! – Grab some green construction paper or green paint and let's get busy. First, trace your child's hand on the green paper or alternately paint his hand with green paint and press a painted handprint onto the paper. Cut these handprints out and glue to popsicle sticks or even regular sticks from your yard. These are your palm branches.

READ! – Gather your children and read the biblical account of Palm Sunday either from your favorite children's Bible or from Matthew 21:1-11 or John 12:12-18.



LISTEN! – Dance to “Give me Oil in My Lamp” (especially the chorus). You can find it on YouTube here: (<http://bit.ly/2nLvav>).

PLAY! – Now it is your turn to act out Jesus' triumphal entry. Talk about the humility that is shown by Jesus. Did He ride into town on a magnificent stallion? No, He chose a donkey. He had no intention of drawing attention to himself. He was in every way a servant leader!

Sing songs of praise with your children and wave your palm branches for the King of Kings, our Savior, Jesus. Have fun worshipping the Lord together!

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OLDER KIDS ACTIVITIES:

- Older kids may enjoy a store-bought palm branch and reading through the biblical account of Palm Sunday as well.
- Ask your older kids to look at the story of Palm Sunday from the perspective of Jesus and the perspective of the crowd. Did the feelings of the crowd remain stable through Easter week? What does this teach us (Jeremiah 17:9)?
- Let your children use a creative outlet to interact with the story. Let them create a painting, a sculpture out of clay, a comic strip, a theater production, whatever suits their fancy.
- Whether you choose an activity or not, talk, talk, talk about Easter week with your older children. Allow them to ask hard questions, and be a sounding board for their faith. And pray for their hearts this week, that they would seek Jesus in an ever-deepening way!