

## SESSION 4

# People Welcome Jesus

### Bible Verse

Blessings on the one who comes in the name of the Lord! (Mark 11:9)

### Did You Know?

**H**osanna! Blessings on the one who comes in the name of the Lord! It was the week of the Passover and many were entering Jerusalem to celebrate this sacred celebration. Passover was typically celebrated with family in the family home. It is a celebration to remember the time when the Hebrew people escaped Egypt with Moses. This week was to bring many different events for Jesus and his disciples.

On this day, Jesus gave directions to the disciples to bring a colt to him. Jesus was going to ride the colt into Jerusalem. On the other side of Jerusalem, King Herod was entering the town with great celebration as well. King Herod rode into town in a horse-drawn chariot with the full army escorting him.

Jesus gave specific, intentional instructions to the disciples. The instructions were focused on the welcoming of Jesus into Jerusalem. The focus for today's session is to be welcoming and hospitable. Older elementary-age children understand what it means to be welcomed into a setting. They may not be able to articulate what they feel, but they do understand. Help them begin to use words to explain how it feels to be welcomed and to welcome someone.

Additionally, prepare the children for the Holy Week experience. Talk with them about the different experiences of Jesus as he walks toward the cross. This would be a wonderful opportunity to discuss the different services your congregation has during Holy Week.



### Bible Story

Mark 11:1-11

### Anchor Point

We welcome Jesus in the name of the Lord.

### Your Lesson

#### JUMP IN:

- ☐ Welcome
- ☐ Palm Branches
- ☐ Hosanna
- ☐ Just the Bible

#### DIVE DEEPER:

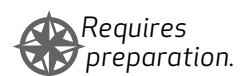
- ☐ Deep Blue Bible Adventure
- ☐ People Welcome Jesus

#### GROW STRONGER:

- ☐ Handprint Palms
- ☐ Learn & Serve with the Deep Blue Kids
- ☐ Hosanna Banner

#### WORSHIP:

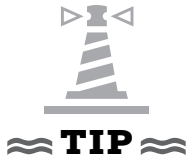
- ☐ Prayer and Praise
- ☐ Bible Stories & Stuff





## JUMP IN!

*After welcoming the children, lead them into the Bible story with at least one of the following activities.*



This is the last session for the unit. Consider using the Review Trivia questions on the Deep Blue Kids Adventure DVD.

### WELCOME

**Supplies: Class Stuff—pp. 2 & 31, Deep Blue Adventure DVD;** DVD player; offering basket



Hang the Attendance Chart (Class Stuff—pp. 2 & 31) at eye level.

- Play, “A Beautiful Sunday” (Adventure DVD), as you welcome each child.
- Show the children where to place their offerings and ask them to record their attendance on the chart.

### PALMS & CLOAKS

**Supplies: Kids Stuff—p. 9,** pens or pencils

- Hand out “Palms and Cloaks” (p. 9) and pens or pencils. Encourage each child to complete the puzzle.

### HOSANNA



**Supplies: Kids Stuff—p. 10,** pens or pencils

- Hand out “Hosanna” (p. 10) and pens or pencils. Encourage each child to complete the puzzle.

### JUST THE BIBLE

**Supplies: Class Stuff—pp. 4 & 29, 12**



Hang the “Unit 1 Bible Verse” and the “Unit 1 Bible Verse Signs” posters (pp. 4 & 29, 12).

- Read the verse together and teach the children the signs for the verse.
- Have the children sign and say the Bible Verse with you several times.

## DIVE DEEPER

### DEEP BLUE BIBLE ADVENTURE

**Supplies: Bible Stories and Stuff—“Songbook,” Adventure DVD,** DVD player, TV or projector and screen


- Hand out the “Songbook” (Bible Stories & Stuff). Using the songbook, invite the children to sing along with “A Beautiful Sunday” (Adventure DVD).

**SAY:** When the Deep Blue Kids begin to head to Alaska they are also celebrating Jesus going into Jerusalem. Let’s watch the video and hear our story.

- Show the children the Adventure DVD for today’s session.

## PEOPLE WELCOME JESUS

**Supplies:** CEB Kids Bibles, Class Stuff—pp. 14 & 19

 Hang “In the Name of the Lord” poster (pp. 14 & 19).

**SAY:** Our Scripture reading for today is Mark 11:1-11. These are very familiar verses for many. If you have heard these verses listen for new details or information you may not have heard before. Let’s read it together.


**ASK:** I wonder:

- What it would have been like to see Jesus come into Jerusalem that day?
- If the disciples understood what was happening?
- If you heard something in the story you have not heard before?
- How God is working in this Scripture story?

## GROW STRONGER

### PALM BRANCHES

**Supplies:** Leader Guide—p. 29, colored paper or construction paper, markers, scissors, white glue, paint stir sticks approximately 12 inches long, markers or crayons


 Make three copies of “Palm Branches” (p. 29) on colored paper for each child.

**SAY:** Jesus arrived in Jerusalem riding on the donkey. The people along the way threw down their cloaks, or coats, and palm branches as a sign of reverence for how special Jesus was. Today we are going to make our own palm branches.

- Use markers to decorate and give detail to the palm leaves.
- Cut out palm leaves from the colored paper, using the template.
- Fold the palm branch lengthwise and cut fronds from the outside edges.
- Glue 4–5 branches on a paint stir stick.

### LEARN AND SERVE

**Supplies:** Class Stuff—pp. 10 & 23, Bible Stories & Stuff—session 4

 Hang “Mission Poster” and “Alaska” (Class Stuff—pp. 10 & 23).

- Give out Bible Stories & Stuff—session 4

**SAY:** The Deep Blue Kids are headed to Alaska. Alaska is a state of the United States of America. Let’s look at our poster about Alaska and discover more about the state. In your Bible Stories & Stuff, you will find a map of the United States with Alaska. Alaska is a large state but doesn’t have a large population compared to the size.

- Show children the mission poster.

**ASK:** Why do you think it is important for us to know about this mission? How will we be able to support this mission this quarter?





### TIP

Do you have children waiting at the end of class? Check out the Deep Blue app at the QR code below.



## HOSANNA BANNER

**Supplies: Class Stuff—p. 8,** mural paper (approximately 6 feet long), markers, tape

**SAY:** The word *Hosanna* means hurray or adoration for someone. While Jesus was traveling on the donkey into Jerusalem the people were shouting hosanna; they were celebrating Jesus. The people were also welcoming Jesus into Jerusalem. They were excited he was there and that he was going to celebrate the Passover in Jerusalem. Today we are going to create a Hosanna banner. This banner will be a welcome banner that we can hang over our door so all who come in will see it. We want to remember to welcome all our visitors and each other each week. Let's work together to create our banner.

## WORSHIP

### PRAYER AND PRAISE

**Supplies: Leader Guide—p. 30, Adventure DVD, CEB Kids Bible, Bible Stories and Stuff—"Songbook,"** DVD player, TV or projector and screen, table, fabric for covering table, candle, cross on the table



• Copy "Holy Week" (p.30) for each child.

- Sing together "A Beautiful Sunday" (Adventure DVD).

**SAY:** As we gather together for worship, let's remember our anchor point today is "We welcome Jesus in the name of the Lord." Our anchor point helps us to focus on Jesus. While thinking about Jesus from our story today, let's light our candle for worship. (*Light the candle.*)

**SAY:** Today begins Holy Week. Holy week is the time we prepare to remember the arrest and crucifixion of Jesus. We are preparing ourselves for Easter. Each day this week is considered to be holy. On Thursday, we will remember Holy Thursday by participating in worship and Communion. On Holy Friday, we remember that on this day Jesus was crucified and died. On Holy Saturday, we grieve because Jesus is in the tomb. Then on Easter, we celebrate because Jesus has risen from the dead. Today we are going to do a Holy Week responsive reading. We will divide into two groups. Group A will go first and then Group B.

**ASK:** Are there any prayer requests this week?

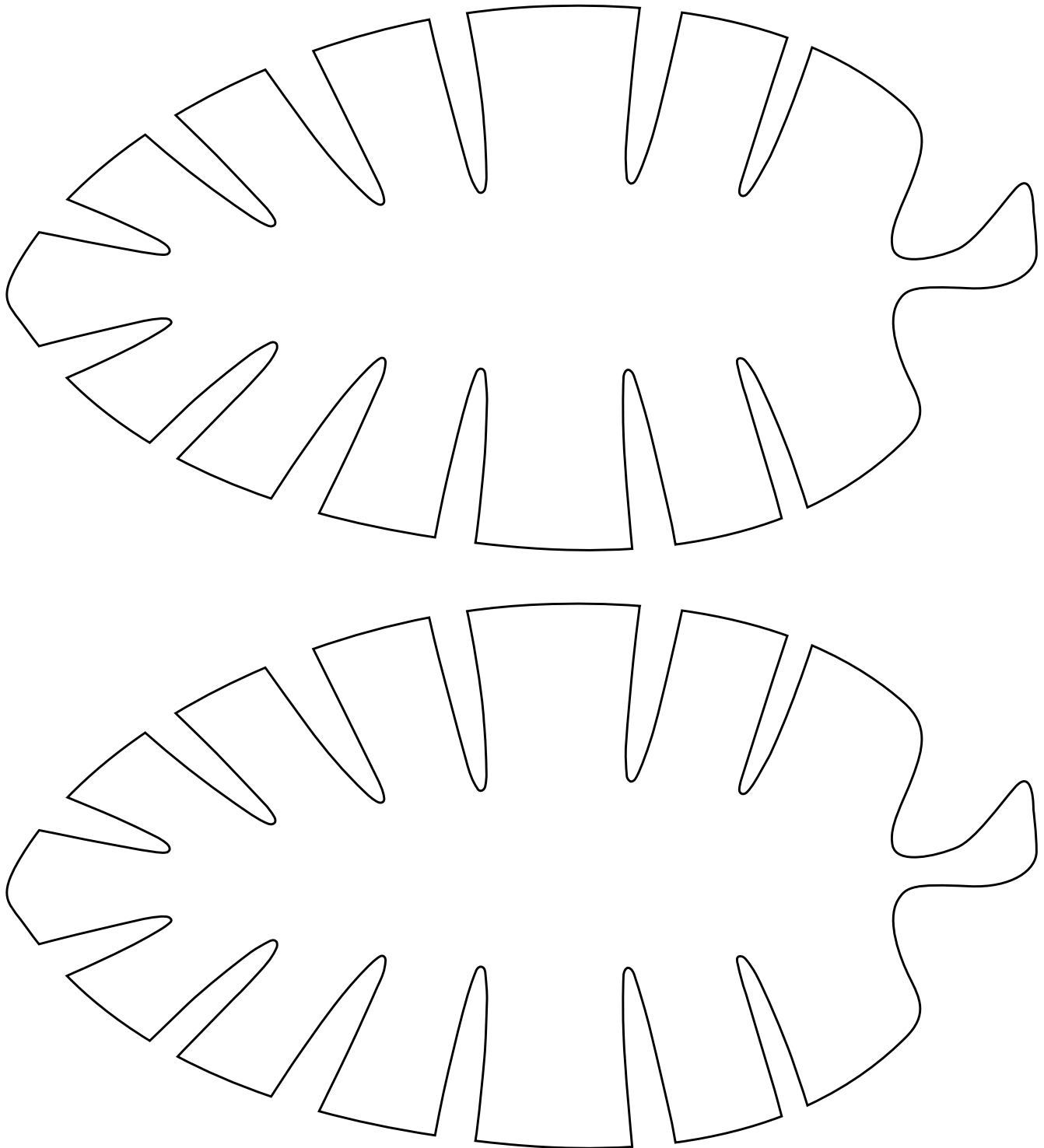
- Invite children to join in the responsive reading.

**PRAY:** Dear God, let us remember Jesus' journey and help us to stay focused on Jesus throughout our week. Amen.

**SAY:** Remember to take home your Bible Stories & Stuff for session 4.

# Palm Branches

Copy the palm branches onto colored paper. Decorate with markers or crayons, then cut around the shapes. Fold the branch in half lengthwise, and cut 'palm fronds' from the outside edges, being careful not to cut all the way through the folded paper. Unfold and glue the individual palm branches to a paint stirrer stick, and wave your palm branches, saying *Hosanna*.



# Holy Week

Group 1: Jesus came into Jerusalem.

Group 2: Riding a donkey.

Group 1: The people celebrated.

Group 2: Jesus prayed.

Group 1: Jesus ate with his disciples.

Group 2: Jesus knew what was to come.

Group 1: Jesus prayed.

Group 2: Jesus was arrested.

Group 1: Jesus suffered.

Group 2: Jesus died.

Group 1: The week is long.

Group 2: But Easter is coming.

Group 1: Jesus came into Jerusalem.

Group 2: The people celebrated.

