

Holy Week Activities

Day	Bible Story	Children's Activities
<p style="text-align: center;">Sunday Rejoice</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Matthew 21:1-11</p> <p>“Jesus Comes to Jerusalem” (Read & Learn Bible p. 415-417)</p> <p>Jesus, the King of kings, comes not as a military leader, but as a humble servant. Who might have been in the crowd? He didn't have a huge army of strong men. His followers included forgiven sinners and healed outcasts. Those are the people with reason to rejoice. Do you find joy in your king?</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Grab markers and paper and color your own palm branches. Kids can wave them outside shouting “Hosanna to the Son of David! Hosanna in the highest!” If you have extra bold kids, they can even go down the sidewalk. 2) Make a path with socks (symbolizing cloaks) weaving through the house. You can even have them go up a pile of pillows to the couch (Jerusalem). Guide a toy animal along the path.
<p style="text-align: center;">Monday Grace</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Mark 11:15-19</p> <p>“Jesus Comes to Jerusalem” (Read & Learn Bible p. 418-419)</p> <p>We are not to take advantage of God's house or His people for our own gain. God doesn't want us to get distracted by things and forget about Him. With the curtain torn in two at Jesus' death, we have access into His presence. No further bloodshed is needed.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Play store. What things do you like to buy? Are there things you can't buy like a sunny day? Remind them the important things in life cannot be purchased, such as love and forgiveness. God offers them to us for free. That is grace.
<p style="text-align: center;">Tuesday Giving</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Mark 12:13-17 & 41-44</p> <p>“Paying Taxes” & “The Poor Woman's Fortune” (Read & Learn Bible p. 420-426)</p> <p>The concept of “mine” is quick to surface. Kids are often vocal about getting their fair share. Generosity is not a part of our sinful nature. Everything we have comes from God even the governments over us. What actions would please Him? Jesus was certainly willing to give all He had.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Practice dividing things up evenly whether it's beads, blocks, cars, or a snack. What if we add another person or stuffed animal? What if we can't make it even? 2) Practice being generous. What could you make or give to your sibling or neighbor? What would you do if you were older and had more money?
<p style="text-align: center;">Wednesday Pouring Out Love</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Mark 14:3-9 & John 13:1-20</p> <p>“At Mary's House” & “Jesus the Servant” (Read & Learn Bible p. 411-14 & 427-431)</p> <p>Love considers the other valuable. Love is active. Love is willing to sacrifice. It is God who makes us clean. It is God who sees us as valuable even worth dying for.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Set up water play in the kitchen sink. Add in items such as measuring cups, a funnel, or child size pitcher or teapot. Keep a towel handy! God's love pours out like the water but never runs out.

<p>Thursday Feast</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Matthew 26:17-29</p> <p>“The Last Supper” (Read & Learn Bible p. 432-436)</p> <p>To this day, we continue celebrating the Lord’s Supper, remembering the sacrifice He made for us, and the promise of joining Him in His heavenly kingdom.</p>	<p>1) Get out some pretend food and serve up a feast. What are your favorite things to eat? Who are some people you enjoy eating with? One day we will share a feast with Jesus in heaven.</p>
<p>Friday Dark Before the Dawn</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Luke 23:32-49</p> <p>“A Dark Friday” (Read & Learn Bible p. 437-441)</p> <p>It can be frustrating or scary when things don’t seem to be going very well. On Good Friday, it looked like the bad guys had won, but it was actually God that claimed the victory. When we feel in the dark, we can trust that God has everything under control, and that the outcome will fit His plan.</p>	<p>1) Make a tent with a sheet or blanket over a table or the backs of chairs. When you’re in the tent can you tell what is going on outside of it? Try out different activities. Maybe you can hear someone walking, but you can’t hear them reading.</p>
<p>Saturday Waiting</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Luke 2:22-38</p> <p>“Jesus Is Blessed” (Read & Learn Bible p. 263-265)</p> <p>God’s people had been waiting a very long time for His Promised One. When Jesus was just a baby, Simeon and Anna had the joy of welcoming Jesus in the temple and telling about what Jesus would do.</p> <p>After the crucifixion the women had to wait until after the Sabbath to go to the tomb. What they found was much better than what they had hoped.</p> <p>We now wait for Jesus to come again, and I’m sure it will be better than we expect.</p>	<p>1) Make some cookies. Talk about waiting as you sit in the kitchen waiting for your first batch to be done. Waiting is hard. Have you waited in expectation for your birthday or Christmas or a visit with relatives or friends?</p> <p>For the second batch, do something while you wait like read a book. Yes, we look forward to Jesus coming back, but we can also be active doing things He would like as we wait.</p>
<p>Sunday Resurrection</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Matthew 28:1-10</p> <p>“A Joyful Sunday” (Read & Learn Bible p. 442-449)</p> <p>He has risen! We will get to see Him again. What a surprise! We too will also rise. Amazing! As the sun rises each day we can remember the good that God has done and will do.</p>	<p>1) Go out explore in nature. What signs of life do you see? Are there plants sprouting up, animals scurrying about, birds chirping, flowers blossoming, bugs crawling, leaves unfurling on branches that seemed dead?</p> <p>2) Get out some playdoh. Remember how God is the source of life since the beginning of creation, molding man out of clay, and continues to grant life including eternal life.</p>