

Palm Sunday Lesson

Powerful Praise

Scripture Text: Luke 19:29-40

Bible Verse: “Let everything that hath breath praise the LORD. Praise ye the LORD” (Psalm 150:6).

POWER Line: Praise the Lord.

Before the Lesson

- Write the words to the songs for this service on a flip chart or transparency for an overhead projector.
- Cut streamers into 3’ lengths.
- Designate an area to the road. Mark off with masking tape if desired.

Supplies

- *Kids in Praise 1 and 2* CDs (available from Pentecostal Publishing House)
- beach ball
- blue, white, black, green, red, and yellow crepe paper streamers about 3’ feet long

I. POWER of Worship

A. Welcome

- What Is Palm Sunday?
- Praise Generators: “Shout to the Lord with

Praise,”

“All Ye Children Worship Him”

B. Energy Outlet: Worship Exercises

C. Offering: Truth Conductor

I. POWER of the Word

A. Bible Memorization

- Energy Outlet: Beach Ball Toss

B. Illustrated Sermon

C. Invitation and Prayer

POWER of Worship

Welcome

As children enter tell them to give three people a “high five” and say “Praise the Lord” each time.

What Is Palm Sunday?

In olden days, when people heard that the king was coming to their town, they lined the streets awaiting his arrival. When he came into sight they waved and shouted hurrahs and other words of welcome as he walked or rode down the street. Sometimes they threw their coats or capes on the ground in front of him so that he would not have to walk on the dirty ground. This was a sign of respect and honor. They did this because they believed their king was special.

In our Bible story today, some people felt the same way about Jesus. They were so excited they ripped palm branches off of the trees and waved them before Jesus as He came by. This happened right before Easter—before Jesus was crucified. Today is the Sunday before Easter, so we call it Palm Sunday and we praise the Lord and recognize Him as King just like those people did long ago. You are going to praise the Lord today, aren't you? If you are going to praise the Lord, give your neighbor a high five and shout, "Praise the Lord!"

Sing along with *Kids in Praise 1 and 2*: "Shout to the Lord with Praise" and "All Ye Children Worship Him."

Energy Outlet

Lead children in worship exercises. Ask the children to hang their arms down, palms facing forward. As they slowly raise their arms, they name a characteristic of Jesus, "Jesus, You are (*wonderful*)." Starting with a whisper, the volume increases as the children lift their arms. By the time their arms are over their heads, they should be shouting, "Jesus, You are wonderful." Ask the children to name another characteristic of Jesus (i.e., loving, great, awesome). Repeat this activity several times, using a different characteristic each time. End by having the children repeat, "Jesus, I love You," as they raise their arms.

As the volume increases and the arms go up, the intensity grows. This is a powerful worship exercise.

Offering

Truth Conductor

What could you do with this money if you didn't put it in the offering? Allow children to respond. You could buy something that you want, couldn't you? What are you saying by giving the money to the Lord's work rather than keeping it and spending it on something you would like to have? Allow children to respond. You are saying that the Lord's work is more important than toys, candy, or (whatever children mentioned). That is a form of praising the Lord. As you drop your money into the offering pan, give someone a high five and shout, "Praise the Lord!"

POWER of the Word

Bible Memorization

Energy Outlet

"Let everything that hath breath praise the LORD. Praise ye the LORD" (Psalm 150:6).

Line children up in two lines facing each other. Assign the first part of the verse to one side and the second part of the verse to the opposing team. Allow them a few minutes to practice saying their words. Give a child on the first team a beach ball. Ask him to say the first part of the verse as he tosses the beach ball to someone on the other side. The other team member tosses the ball back to the first team as he says the second part of the verse. Team members who toss the ball

without saying their part verse are out. After a few minutes of play, switch sides so teams learn both parts of the verse.

Illustrated Sermon

Divide the students into the following groups and give each group the assigned color of streamer. Designate an area to be a road (use a hallway if possible) and ask students to stand with their group on both sides of the road in order: crowd 1, crowd 2, and crowd 3. The Pharisees can stand on both sides of the road. Jesus and the disciples stand at the top of the road.

Disciples—blue

Jesus—white

Pharisees—black

1st crowd—green

2nd crowd—red

3rd crowd—yellow

Hundreds of years before Jesus was born a prophet had said that the King of the Jews was going to ride into Jerusalem on the back of a donkey. The people had seen all of the wonderful things that Jesus had done. They had heard Him preach the Word of God, and now here He was—riding into Jerusalem on the back of a donkey! It was an exciting time!

Read Luke 19:36-40 out loud. **Let's act out what happened.**

Before acting out the Bible story, tell each group what to

say and do. The disciples and Jesus slowly walk down the “road” lined with the crowds and the Pharisees. Jesus waves the white streamer. The disciples wave the blue streamers and say, “Let’s go with Jesus.” As Jesus passes by, crowd 1 waves the green streamers and shouts, “Jesus is coming!” Crowd 2 waves the red streamers and shouts, “Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!” Crowd 3 waves the yellow streamers and shouts, “Hosanna! Hosanna!” The Pharisees wave the black streamers and cry out, “Hush! Be quiet!”

Let the procession begin. When Jesus has traveled the length of the road ask the students to sit down where they are.

Whew! That must have been a pretty noisy day in Jerusalem. It was pretty noisy in here. That’s what happens when people praise the Lord. The Pharisees didn’t like it and they wanted Jesus to make His disciples be quiet, but Jesus said if they didn’t praise Him the rocks would cry out in praise. Even a rock knows that the Lord should be praised.

Spirit Generator

Play the song “No Rock Gonna Cry Out” from *Kids in Praise 1* CD. Encourage children to worship and sing along.

Invitation and Prayer

We need to praise the Lord because He gave His life for us. People receive the Holy Ghost when they praise the Lord. If you would like to receive the Holy Ghost today, come up to the front and we will praise the Lord with you until you receive the Holy Ghost.

Play music softly as children come forward to pray.