

TODAY'S BIBLE STORY: PALM SUNDAY BOTTOM LINE: JESUS WANTS TO BE MY FRIEND FOREVER!

PRF LARGE GROUP ACTIVITY

ACTIVITY #1 - CELEBRATE

What You Need: Several different colors of streamers, pom poms

- 1. Allow the children to use the streamers to decorate the entire area.
- 2. Help the children drape them on chairs, around other furniture, and even the floor.
- 3. Give each child a handful of pom poms. Count to three and throw the pom poms into the air celebrating. Have the KIDS collect and repeat as many times as desired.
- 4. When done, encourage kids to help pick up pom poms. If there is another service, tear down streamers to allow the next service to decorate!

Say (After the Activity): "WOW! Stand with me and look at the awesome job you did! I love all of your decorations. We are ready to celebrate Jesus just like they did in our Bible story today."

PRAYER BEFORE BIBLE STORY:

When all the kids are gathered for Large Group, pray together before the videos start: "Dear God, Thank you for today. Thank you for all of my friends here! We pray over our Large Group time and ask that You be with us. Help us learn more about You! We love You God. In Jesus' Name, amen!"

POST LARGE GROUP ACTIVITIES



ACTIVITY #2 - MEMORY VERSE LEAVES

What You Need: "Memory Verse Leaves" Pages, Scissors

- 1. Show the children the leaves and point out the words of the verse as you repeat it together.
- 2. Then gather the leaves, mix them up, and encourage the children to put them in order. Help by pointing out the numbers on the leaves.
 - 3. Repeat the verse together.

Say (After the Activity): "Great job, friends! I'm so glad that Jesus said, 'I am with you always.' He's the BEST

friend ever! Who wants to be your friend forever?

Jesus wants to be my friend forever MORE ACTIVITIES ARE ON THE BACK OF THIS PAGE

ACTIVITY #3 - PALM BRANCH FILL-IN

What You Need: "Palm Branch Fill-In" Activity Page, Green markers, Scissors, Green straws, Tape

- 1. Have children fill in their palm branch with the green markers, then tape a straw to the back.
- 2. Have children wave their palm branch as you review today's Bible story.

Say (After the Activity): "One day in the city of Jerusalem, someone special came to town—Jesus! Everyone was so excited. They had heard that Jesus was a good friend and had done amazing things like stopping a storm, making sick people better, and feeding a lot of people with just a little bit of food. They wanted to do something special to celebrate Him. Some people got palm branches. Wave your palm branches. And some people took off their coats and laid them on the ground to make a special path.



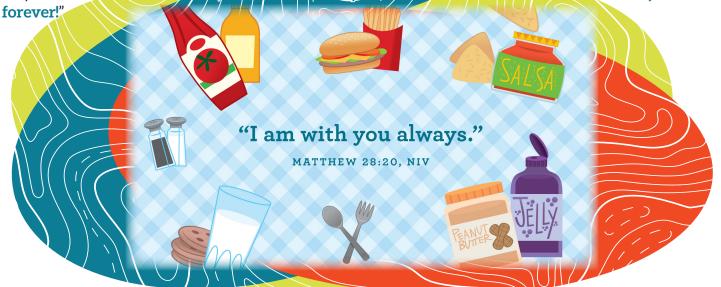
Jesus rode through town on a donkey while people waved their palm branches and shouted 'Hosanna, Hosanna! Yay, Jesus!' Wave your branches and say that with me. Hosanna, Hosanna! Yay, Jesus! Again. Hosanna, Hosanna! Yay, Jesus! The people celebrated Jesus because they knew He was special. Jesus is such a special friend. Jesus wants to be your friend forever! Who wants to be your friend forever! Jesus wants to be my friend forever!"

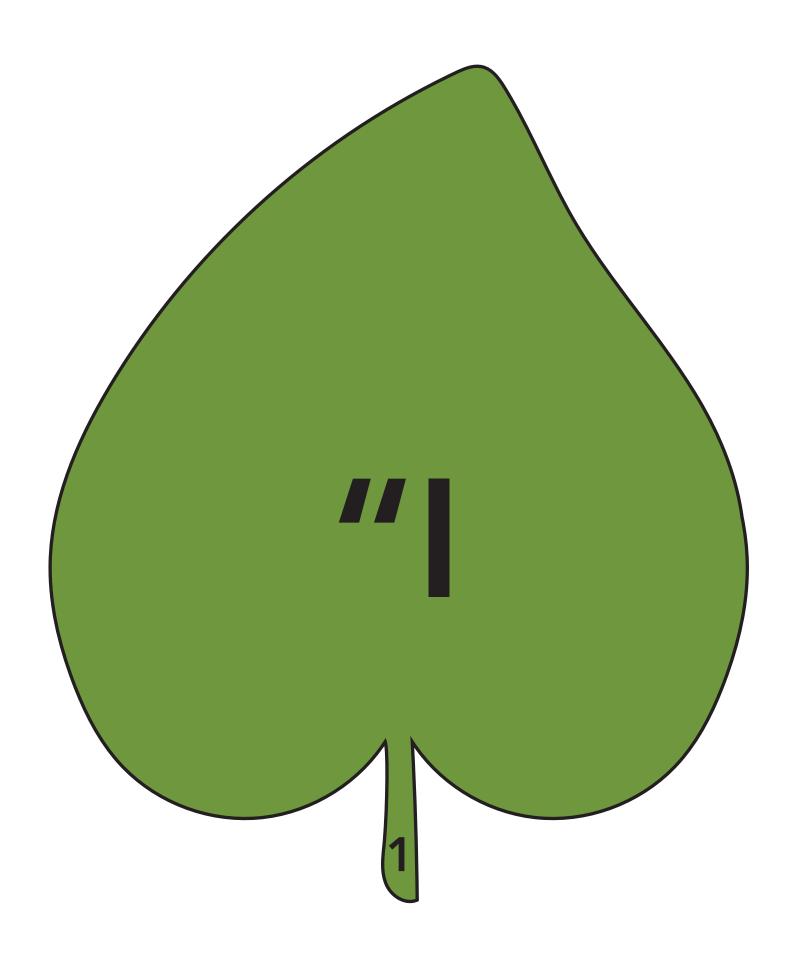
ACTIVITY #4 - TAKE A RIDE

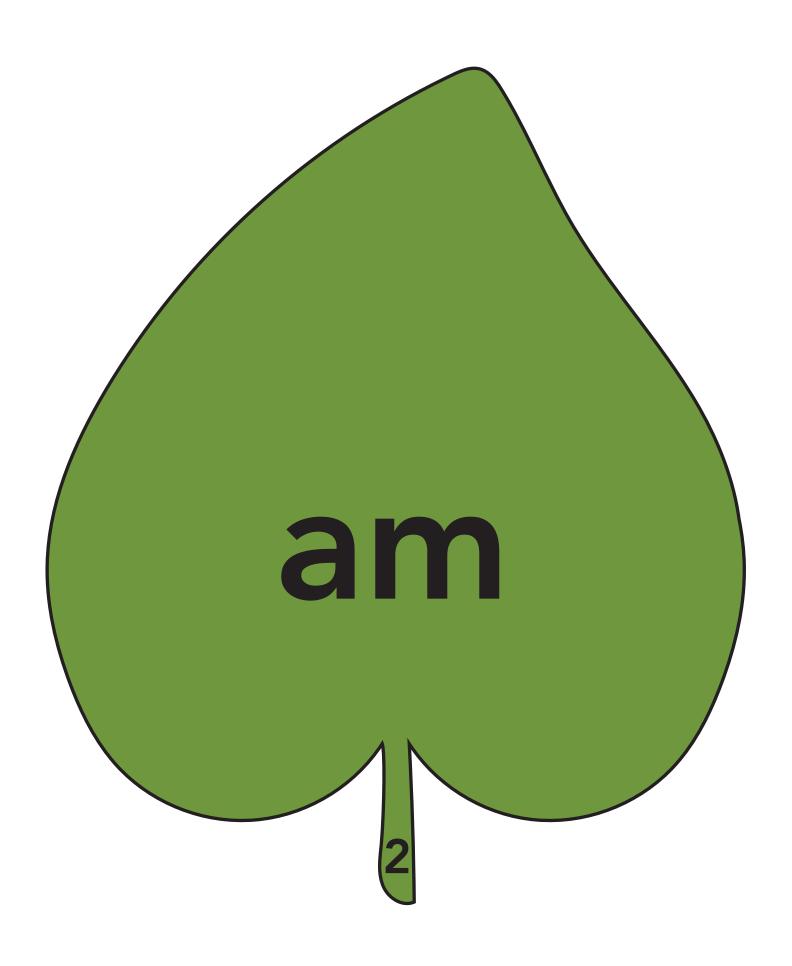
What You Need: "Coats" Pages, Scissors, Donkey on a stick, Decorated "Palm Branch Fill-In" palms

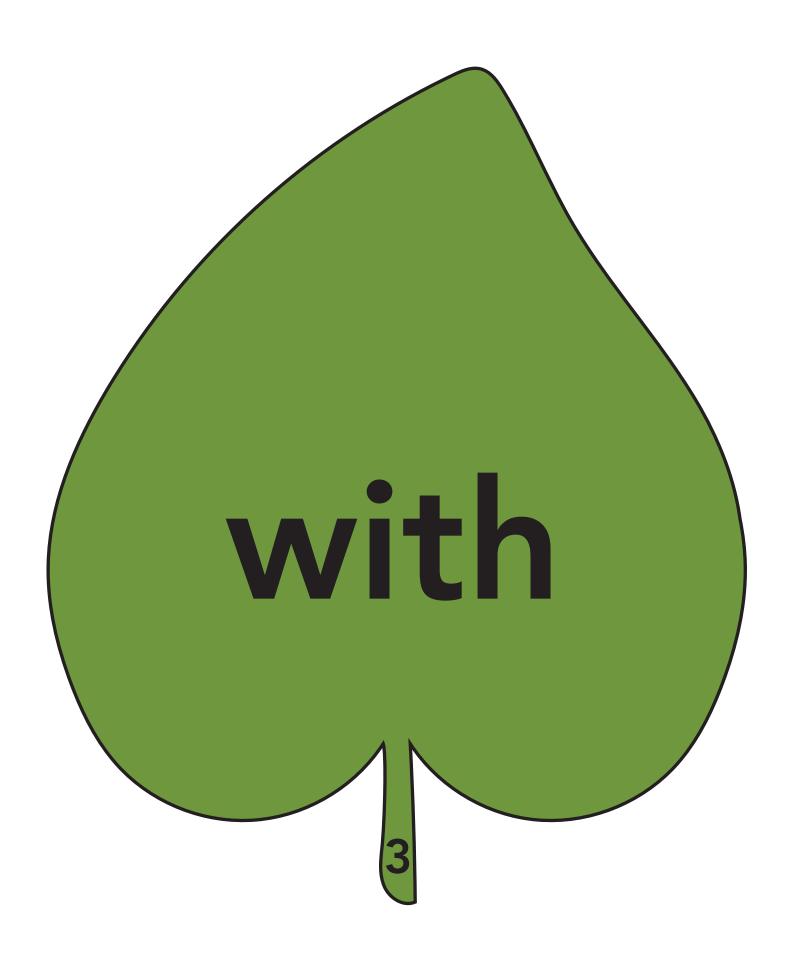
- 1. Choose one child to ride the donkey on a stick. Give the other children a coat cutout.
- 2. Line the children up in two lines facing one another. Encourage the children to lay their "coats" on the floor, wave their palm branch and cheer as one child rides the donkey between the lines of kids.
- 3. Repeat the activity, each time choosing a different child to ride the donkey while the other children pick up the coats so they can lay them on the floor and cheer.
- 4. Make sure every child gets a turn riding the donkey. Talk about how the people celebrated Jesus when He rode through town on a donkey, and we can celebrate Jesus, too.

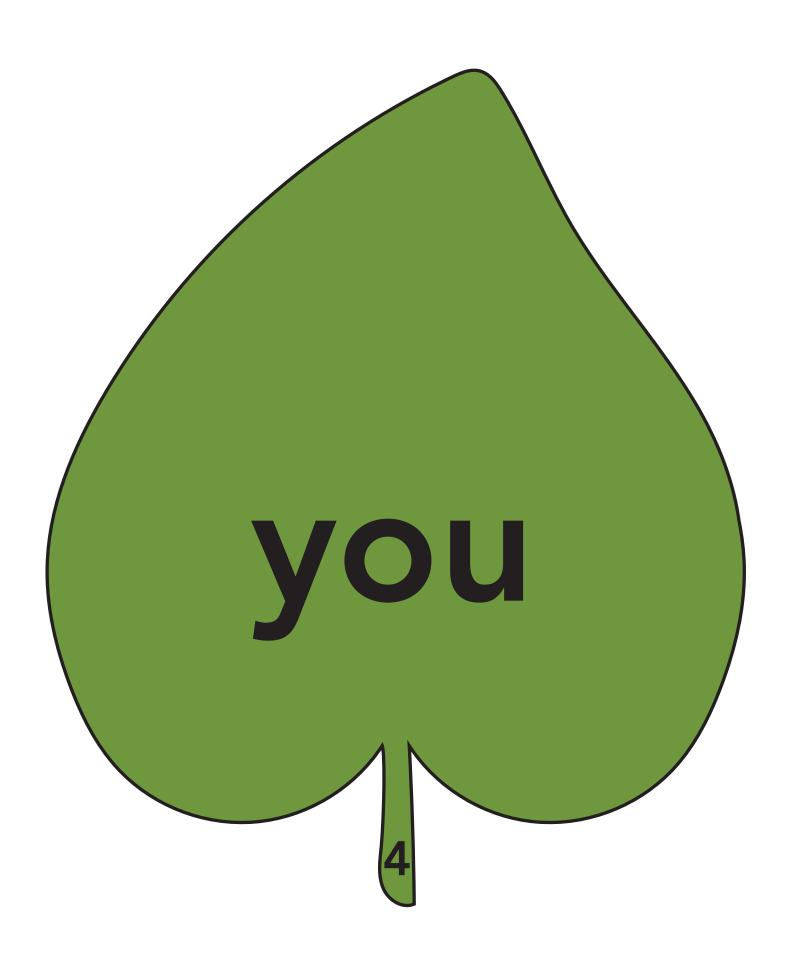
Say (After the Activity): "The people were so excited to see Jesus that they spread their coats on the road, waved palm branches in the air, and shouted 'Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus!' They were excited because they had heard about the amazing things Jesus had done and that He wants to be everyone's friend. We can celebrate Jesus, too, because Jesus wants to be my friend forever, and Jesus wants to be your friend forever. Tell we, who wants to be your friend forever? Jesus wants to be my friend



















Coats • Color • Take a Ride • April Week 2
Copy on copy paper and cut on dotted line. One per child.
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