

The Greatest King

(based on John 12:12-16)

The people heard that Jesus was coming into Jerusalem.

(everyone puts their hands to their ears)

They had all come to Jerusalem for the Passover Feast. Passover is a special feast to remember how God had rescued His people from being slaves many years earlier.

(Do an eating food action and rub your bellies)

The people grabbed branches from palm trees and went to meet Jesus. They were shouting,

(Pass around some palm branches that you have made. Encourage the children to wave them.)

"Hosanna! Praise God!

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord!

God bless the King of Israel"

(Encourage the children to shout some of these words)

Jesus found a colt - a small donkey - and sat on it.

(Invite one child to act as the donkey and another to be Jesus. If appropriate, encourage one child to sit on the other)

This was just as the scriptures had said: Don't be afraid, people of Jerusalem!

Your king is coming.

He is sitting on the colt of a donkey."

(Either pass around a handmade crown or do an action of a crown on the head to remind the children of Jesus being a king)

Nobody understood all of this at first.

(Encourage the children to scratch their heads or show a picture of a big exclamation mark)

But after Jesus rose from the dead, they remembered that Zechariah had written this. And they remembered that they had done these things to him.

(Do a finger pointing up motion as a "ding ding" remembering motion and surprised eyes)