

PALM SUNDAY AT HOME

(WITH KIDS)

GOD IS A GOOD KING

BIBLE

Matthew 21:1-11, Matthew 25 : 31-34

MUSIC | Worship & Say What you are Grateful for.. ▲

Sing a few songs together as a family. You can sing acapella or with instruments or use these videos: [When Jesus Says Yes](#) , [Jesus is my Superhero](#), [This Little Light](#) . Also take a few minutes to go around the room and say one thing you are grateful for...

INTRODUCTION | Connected to this Season (of Coronavirus) ▲

Instructions: Color [Palm Coloring](#) together, if you don't have a printer make your own "palm branches" with paper and markers or construction paper. And hang them on your front door or front window so your neighbors can see them when they walk by.

Talk about how people have been honoring the nurses and doctors talking care of the people sick from the Coronavirus. Maybe show this [video](#) of people cheering during the shift changes.

Mother Teresa always talked about seeing Jesus in the poor and sick she served. And many of us see Jesus in the way she served the poor. We can

also see Jesus and honor that Jesus is King by honoring medical professionals serving the sick bravely.

READ | MATTHEW 25:31-34 ▲

INSTRUCTIONS: Have someone in your family read the following (if you have a child who reads give them this part).

“Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Enter, you who are blessed by my Father! Take what’s coming to you in this kingdom. It’s been ready for you since the world’s foundation. And here’s why:

I was hungry and you fed me,
I was thirsty and you gave me a drink,
I was homeless and you gave me a room,
I was shivering and you gave me clothes,
I was sick and you stopped to visit,
I was in prison and you came to me.’

WHY PALM BRANCHES? ▲

Read [Matthew 21:1-11](#) or watch this [VIDEO](#) of the Triumphal Entry which tells the story of why this Sunday is called "Palm Sunday"

THE BIG IDEA | God is a Good King ▲

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Say: "During this time, it is becoming more obvious who is in charge around here. Who is in charge? Who are our leaders? (Let kids list the president, the governor, the mayor, ect)...But who is really our leader? *I am...your parent!*

But a man named Jesus a long time ago, came and said that no matter who the president or king or leader or who your parent is...the King is God--the maker of the world and everything in it. And, this is good because God is a good King. The kind of king that says, "when you serve the sick and hungry you serve me." And we can honor this King not only by hanging branches in our front window but by serving those in need.

ACTIVITY | Hosanna Balloon Bop

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Use a balloon or a ball (preferably a blow-up beach ball), play a game of keep it in the air, but every-time you hit the ball you have to say the next part of the word "Hosanna." So one person hits the ball and says, Ho. The next person hits it and says "San" and the next hits the balloon and says, "A." Play for 5-10min and have fun.

ACTIVITY | ACT-IT-OUT-LOUD

Assign parts and act out the story of Palm Sunday. Depending on the size of your family make a stuffy the donkey and the youngest child Jesus (or another stuffy can be Jesus). Then each person can have a line to shout, : "Hosanna to the Son of David"; "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" and "Hosanna in the highest heaven!" Each person (or team) will say their own 'verse' and then the next will say their's in order. Tell the kids to get louder and louder, and enjoy saying THEIR 'part' the loudest and the excitement will build! Each team must extend arms over head when they say THEIR part!!!!

RESPONSE | Pray & Plan

INSTRUCTIONS to PRAY: With older kids take turns praying for household struggles as well as for our city, country and world during the pandemic. Or If you have a child that prefers to read a prayer (like mine) use this one:

Dear God, Let Your Good Kingdom Come to our house today--to our neighborhood, to Chicago, to our country and to this world. Comfort the families of the sick and heal those in pain.

Amen.

INSTRUCTIONS to Plan: Talk about what you can do as a family to help those in need this season. It could be spreading some Easter cheer by leaving something on a elderly neighbors step. It could be donating food to a local shelter or food pantry. It could be offering neighbors to grocery shop

for them. It could be leaving a picture and baked treat at the firehouse to encourage the firefighters.