### Pre-Lesson Downloads #31 Palm Sunday/Holy Week

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Dear Families: Here we are at the week before Easter! I pray all is well with each of your families. Today the stories will be about the week before the crucifixion, called Holy Week. I hope you will sit with your child/children for this story. I will not give any "gory" details, but the children need to know that Jesus allowed Himself to be taken so God could show us salvation. Jesus stayed faithful to His mission, of embodying God's love for the world, and it cost Him His life. I just don't want the little ones to feel afraid. Jesus stayed true to God's mission to give us salvation because He trusted His Mother/Father to know and do what was best. Jesus gave himself freely and wholly for us. Next week we will learn the details of the resurrection and God's glory, the best part of this story!

Note: I will supply you with the verses that contain these stories, but I will abbreviate what I type here. This time period covers many chapters in each gospel. If you want to read the entire accounts and you do not have a Bible, you can look it up online, pick the translation and read it there. I use the NRSV – New Revised Standard Version. (Matthew 21:1-28:10; Mark11:1-16:8; Luke 19:29-24:12; John 12:12-20:10)

#### Bible Text: John 12:12-15 Jesus' Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem

"The next day the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet Him, shouting, 'Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord—the King of Israel!' Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it; as it is written: 'Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion. Look, your king is coming sitting on a donkey colt!'"

#### Mark 14:22–24 The Lord's Supper

"While they were eating, He took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it He broke it, gave it to them, and said, 'Take; this is my body.' Then He took a cup and after giving thanks He gave it to them, and all of them drank from it. He said to them, 'This is my blood of the covenant (promise), which is poured out for many."

#### Mark 14:22–42 Jesus Prays at Gethsemane

"They went to a place called Gethsemane and He said to His disciples, 'Sit here while I pray,' He took with Him Peter and James and John, and began to be distressed and agitated. And He said to them, 'I am deeply grieved, even to death: remain here, and keep awake.' And going a little farther, He threw Himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from Him. He said, 'Abba Father, for You all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet not what I want, but what You want.' He came and found them sleeping, and He said the Peter, "Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep awake one hour? Keep awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.' And again He went away and prayed, saying the same words. And once more He came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy; and they did not know what to say to Him. 'Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Enough! The hour has come; the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, My betrayer is at hand."

Mark 14:53–56; 15:1–5 Jesus Before the Council/Jesus Before Pilate

"They took Jesus to the high priest; and all the chief priests, and elders, and the scribes were assembled. Peter had followed Him at a distance right into the courtyard of the high priest; and He was sitting with guards, warming Himself at the fire. Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for testimony against Jesus to (execute) Him; but they found none. For many gave false testimony against Him. . . As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led Him away, and handed Him over to Pilate, Pilate asked Him, 'Are you the King of the Jews?' He answered him, 'You say so.' Then the chief priests accused Him of many things. Pilate asked Him again, 'Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you.' But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed."

#### Mark 15:6-32 Pilate Hands Jesus Over to Be Crucified

"Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked. Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the rebels who had committed (terrible crimes.) So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom. The he answered the, 'Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?' (Pilate, ruler of the Romans) realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed Him over. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. 'Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jew?' They shouted back, 'Crucify Him! Crucify Him!' . . . (Pilate) handed Him over to be crucified. . . (The Roman soldiers and others made fun of Jesus by acting very cruel to Him.). . . (They crucified Him on a cross.)

Note: Burial rites were very specific for Jewish people. The dead was to be buried very quickly after death. Jesus died about 3:00 on Friday afternoon. Sabbath (Friday evening to Saturday evening) began at about 6:00 pm on Friday. They did not have much time to do the burial rites on Jesus' body. The burial rite included washing the body of the deceased, rubbing oil and spices on it and wrapping it in cloths. They only had time to get Jesus' body wrapped up and laid in a tomb before Sabbath began. That is why the women came back on Sunday morning to finish preparing His body for burial. On the Sabbath no work at all may be done. No searching for food, cooking, or reheating it. There can be no cleaning and many other things required of daily life. The tomb in which Jesus was laid had never been used before; it was newly hewn out of rock by Joseph of Arimathea.

#### Mark 15:33-57 The Death and Burial of Jesus

. . . "When evening had come, and since it was the day of Preparation, that is, the day before the Sabbath, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God, went boldly to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. . . When (Pilate) learned from the centurion that He was dead, he granted the body to Joseph, and taking down the body, wrapped it in the linen cloth, and laid it in a rock. He then rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where the body was laid."

#### But, this is not the end of the story! Tune in next week to learn the best part of the story!

**Bible Verse:** Have your child choose one from the following verses to memorize and place in their homemade Bibles: Proverbs 3:5 – Trust in the Lord with all your heart. John 10:18 – No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of My own accord. I Timothy 2:6 – Christ Jesus, who gave Himself a ransom for all. I John 3:16 – We know love by this, that He laid down His life for us.

**Materials:** \*The first 2 pages are to make a diorama. Children color Jesus on the donkey and the people with palm branches. Then color the background of the city of Jerusalem, cut and fold it so that it makes a little inclosure. Cut out, fold and glue the pictures from the first page on the bottom of the enclosure to illustrate the Triumphal Entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. \*4 work pages \*Included are 2 pages for Maundy Thursday, info and book marks to color and give away. No info in recorded lesson.

#### Answers to the puzzles:

#### The Triumphal Entry

"Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!" Luke 19:38 (NIV)

Enter the correct words in the boxes based on the shape of the letters.

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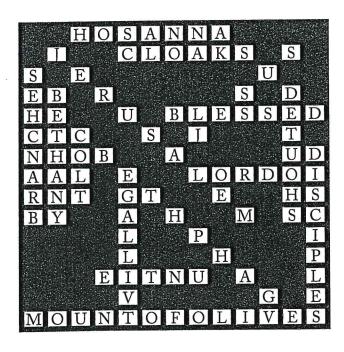
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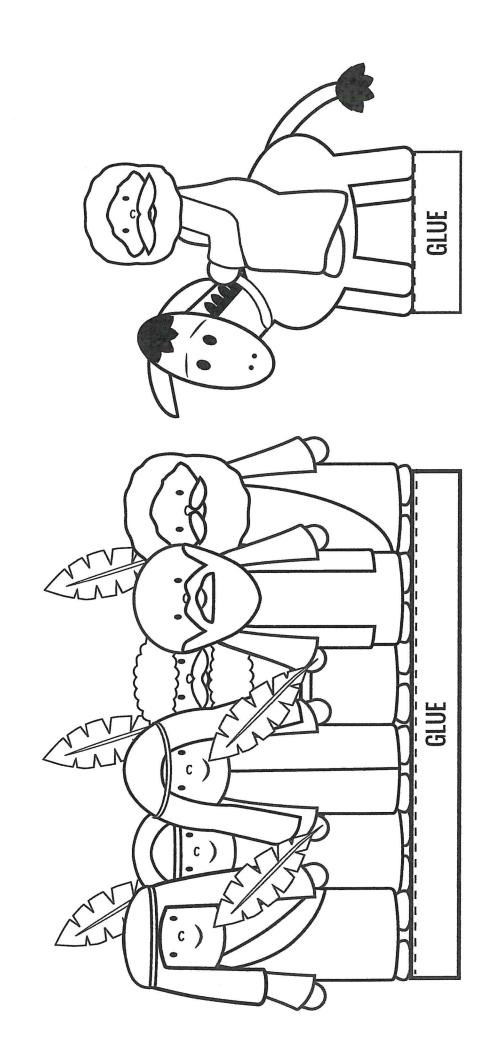
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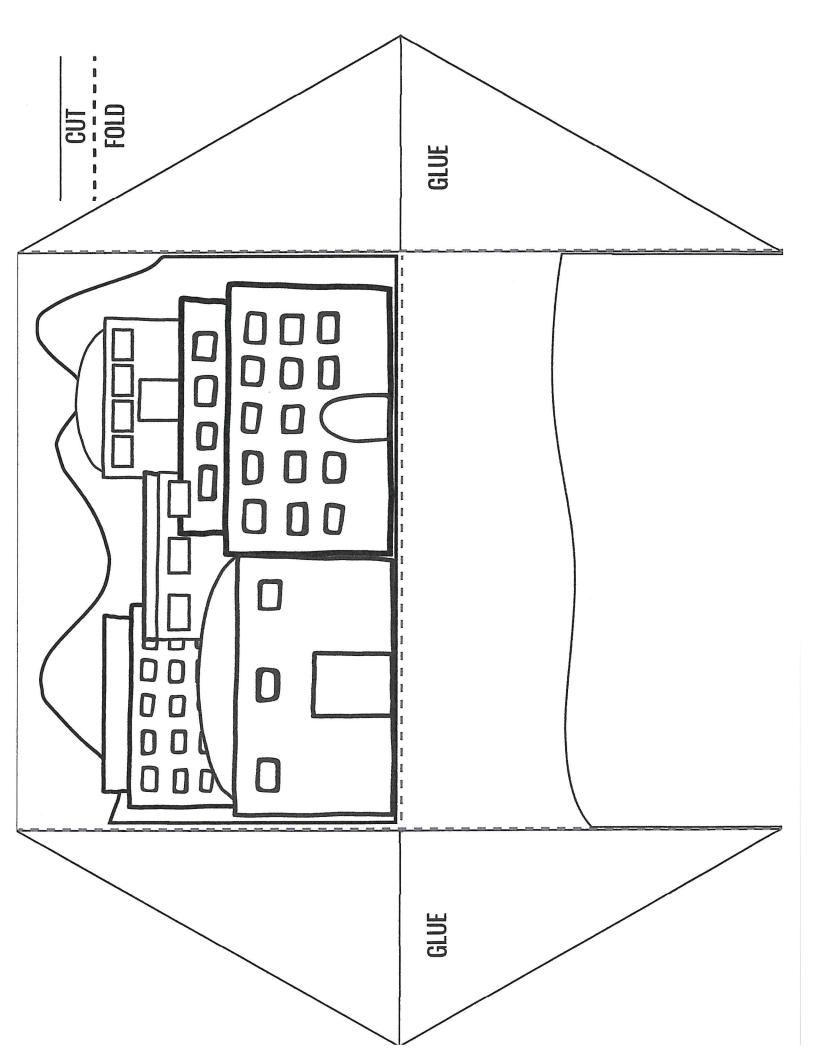
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page 87 He has risen! He is not here.





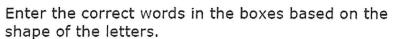


## The Triumphal Entry

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"Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!" Luke 19:38 (NIV)





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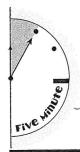
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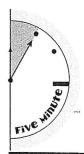
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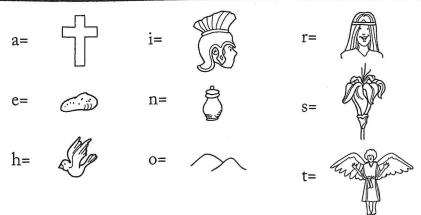
ee how many of these words you can find from the story of the Triumphal Entry from Mark 11:1-11 in the word search puzzle.

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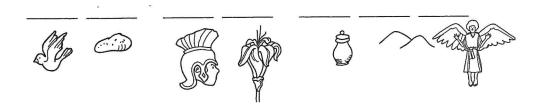




olve the puzzle to find what the man in the white robe said to the women.



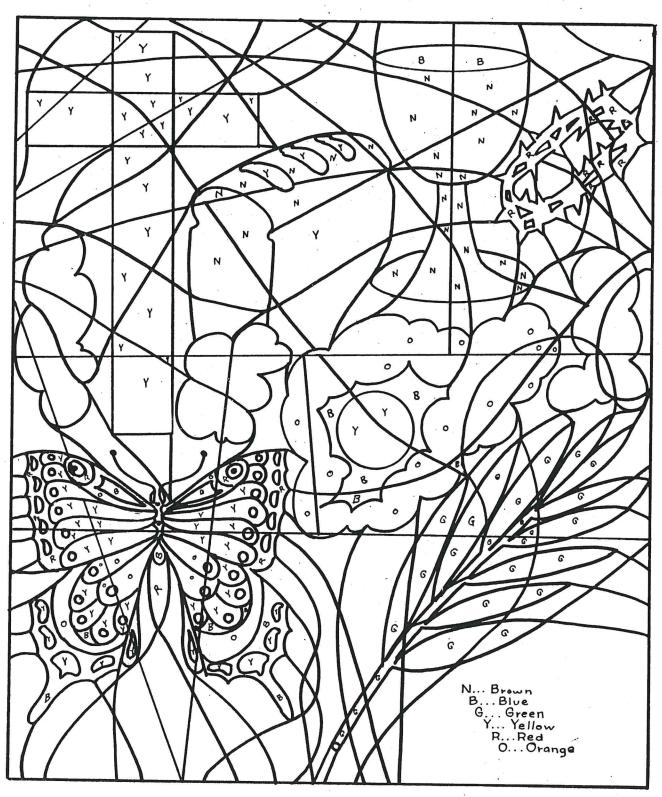




\_\_\_\_\_. Mark 16:6

The solution is on page 96.

# Find the Palm Sunday and Holy Week Symbols



#### What is Maundy Thursday?

Maundy Thursday is the day when many Christians remember and celebrate Jesus' final meal (the Last Supper or Lord's Supper). Many church traditions do not use the term or do anything particular to recognize the day. Consequently, many inside and outside the church are unfamiliar with "Maundy Thursday."

#### Some Background

During His final meal with His disciples (it was a Passover meal), Jesus said and did many things to prepare His disciples for His impending death and departure. One of the things He said was, "I give you a new command: Love one another. Just as I have loved you, you must also love one another" (John 13:34). He repeated this "new command" in John 15:12 and 17.

So, one of the things that night is remembered for is the "new command" of love Jesus gave to His disciples. There were other things as well, but as Jesus prepared His disciples for a new time when He would not be with them, one of the things He stressed is the need for His people to love one another.

#### Mandatum is Latin for "Command"

The word for "command" in John 13:34 (above) is translated as "mandatum" in the Latin Vulgate. Mandatum then became shortened to "Maundy" so "Maundy Thursday" is a reference to the final Thursday ("Command Thursday") during which Jesus gave the "new command" to His disciples.

Churches may observe Maundy Thursday in a variety of ways depending on their tradition and preferences. It often includes participating in communion or the Lord's Supper and sometimes includes foot washing in recognition of when Jesus washed His disciples' feet that same Thursday evening. However it is recognized in any particular church or home, it can become a meaningful addition to the church's passion week observances and the individual believer's life.

Rick Edwards
Author, Speaker, Bible Teacher



# Do this in remembrance of Me. Luke 22:19b



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Luke 22:19b