

FAITH 5

Sunday School for Families

Sunday, April 5th

Palm Sunday of Passion Week

Introduction: The Word of God is moving and active, even today as we are gathering in our own separate homes. This step by step guide is meant to draw the entire family together around God's Word. **Use as much or as little of these resources as you'd like. Make this time your own, but be intentional about it.** Whether it is morning, afternoon or night, set aside this time to make sure everyone is in the same place at the same time. You might consider watching the recording of worship Pastor Aaron has emailed out. The Bible story you are getting ready to talk about as a family is the same Bible story Pastor Aaron is preaching on.



Step 1: **SHARE** your highs and lows

What was the best part of your day or weekend? What was the worst? Name it. Claim it. Share it with those who love you. Daily sharing of the highs and lows of life helps people of all ages to be more self-aware, while strengthening communication and connection with others. One important rule for Step 1: no judging highs and lows! If we judge, we quickly teach those we love that sharing is not safe.



Step 2: **READ** and/or **WATCH** the Bible story (Matthew 21:1-11)

If you have a children's Bible, and it has the story of Palm Sunday in Matthew 21, read it together as a family. The older kids should have their Adventure Bible at home with them and this story will be in there. If you don't have either, read it from your family Bible or download a Bible app on your phone to read from. I have attached 2 YouTube videos of the story as well that you can watch together as a family.



Step 3: **TALK** about the story and **DO** something to help you remember it

Unpack the story a little bit. What does it mean in your own words? Wonder together about how it might relate to where you are today in your highs and lows. A few questions to ask:

- What is the most memorable parade you have ever been to?
- What do you think was the most exciting thing about Palm Sunday?
- Why was Jesus riding on a donkey instead of a horse?
- Do you think everyone knew that later in the week Jesus would be put to death?



Step 4: **PRAY** with one another

Offer your hearts and minds in prayer. Simply talk to God, thank Jesus for the good, and ask the Holy Spirit for guidance in specific problems. Take turns leading the prayer or write a family prayer together. Ask everyone to pray for the person on their right or elect one person to pray for everyone. End with the Lord's Prayer. The point is - you cannot do prayer wrong. Go together to God, offering the realities of your lives.



Step 5: **BLESS** one another

Trace the sign of the cross on one another's forehead or palm as a reminder that you belong to God and to one another. Make eye and heart contact as you share words of blessing such as "Jesus loves you and so do I" or "The Lord bless and keep you" or "You are a beloved child of God." Think of ways that you can serve one another today, tomorrow or in the week ahead. How can you be the light of the world for those at home with you?