

# People Rejoice as Jesus Enters Jerusalem

Mark 11:1-11

Fifth- and sixth-graders know well the idea of having heroes. They pick people to look up to, and they long to meet them, display posters of them, and follow their every move. Kids at this age understand what it means to honor someone. Use this lesson to teach them how Jesus is the ultimate person to look up to—he’s our king!



### ► Bible Point


Jesus is our king.

### Key Verse

“That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father” (Philippians 2:10-11).

### Weaving Faith Into Life

Kids will give honor to Jesus throughout the week.

LESSON	WHAT KIDS DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<p><b>1</b></p> <p>Getting Started</p>	<p><b>You Deserve a Speech!</b>  <i>(about 10 min.)</i>            Write a speech that honors a peer.</p>	<p>Bible Buzz, pens, CD player  <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD</p>	<p>Tear out the Lesson 5 pages from each Bible Buzz student book.</p>
<p><b>2</b></p> <p>Bible Exploration</p>	<p><b>How Can He Be Honored?</b>  <i>(about 20 min.)</i>            Discuss how objects used in the triumphal entry might define honor.</p>	<p>Bibles, paper, pens  <b>Teacher Pack:</b> Bible Timeline</p> 	

*Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.*



LESSON	WHAT KIDS DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<b>3</b> Weaving Faith Into Life	<b>Honor Poems</b> <i>(about 15 min.)</i> Learn the Key Verse, and then write a poem about honor.	Bible Buzz, pens, CD player <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
	<b>Service of Surrender</b> <i>(about 15 min.)</i> Show that Jesus is our king by turning things over to him and praying about it.	Bible Buzz, pens, CD player, copies of the lyrics page (at the end of this lesson), chair <b>Teacher Pack:</b> CD	
<b>4</b> Lasting Impressions	<b>Daily Challenges</b> <i>(about 5 min.)</i> Choose a Daily Challenge to apply God's Word.	Bible Buzz	
	<b>Weaving Faith at Home</b> <i>(about 2 min.)</i> Talk about how to share what they learned with their families.		

***Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.***



# People Rejoice as Jesus Enters Jerusalem

Mark 11:1-11

BIBLE BACKGROUND  
FOR LEADERS



## Prophecies Fulfilled

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This moment in Jewish history had long been anticipated. Zechariah 9:9 predicts that the Messiah would come “gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.” Without question, the Jews along Jesus’ path made this connection and knew what it meant. Their celebration made this clear as they covered Jesus’ path with their outer robes and palm branches—a demonstration of honor and submission.

## The King Comes

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The cries of the people were significant. As they shouted “hosanna,” they were saying, “Lord, save us!” As they referred to Jesus as “he who comes in the name of the Lord” and spoke plainly of “the coming kingdom of our father David,” they were making clear references to the Messiah predicted many times in the Old Testament.

## Confusing Events

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After the excitement of his triumphal entry, Jesus and his disciples left Jerusalem to spend the night in Bethany, where Mary, Martha, and Lazarus lived. No mention is made of the crowd following them. After all the cheering had died down, everyone must have gone home. Jesus had spoken earlier of his imminent death, but the day’s events probably encouraged the disciples to think about Jesus being made king. How could things possibly turn against him as Jesus said they would?

As events unfolded, the disciples’ heads must have been spinning. Throngs honored Jesus that day, but only a few days later the disciples hid in fear of the authorities, trying to find a way to live for the crucified Jesus.

## Changed Lives

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Fortunately, we know what happened next. After the Resurrection, everything changed. And that’s how it can be in our lives. When we choose to live for Jesus, everything changes. We don’t honor him just by cheering and praying and singing great worship songs. We honor him—as the disciples did—in every facet of our lives. We honor him through our worship but also through our obedience, service, witness, and gratitude.

## The Jesus Connection

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“Hosanna! Lord save us!” Jesus answers that plea: Through a relationship with him, we can experience this great gift of salvation.

It’s easy to unintentionally develop a ho-hum attitude about faith. Yet in this passage, the crowds honored Jesus with extravagant, public displays of worship. What can you do to break free of complacency? How will you extravagantly worship Jesus this week? Pray about actions you can take or words you can say this week to honor Jesus as the Messiah. You can write your prayer here.

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### You Deserve a Speech! Supplies

Bible Buzz

pens

CD player

**Teacher Pack**

CD: “Pomp and  
Circumstance”  
(track 8)

### You Deserve a Speech! Easy Prep

Tear out the Lesson 5  
pages from each Bible  
Buzz student book.

## 1 GETTING STARTED

# You Deserve a Speech!

### What You’ll Do ■■■■■■

Welcome kids warmly as they arrive, and ask them how their week went.

**Say: Today is an important moment in your life. You’re about to meet one of the most influential people you’ll ever meet. So get ready!**

Distribute pens and this week’s Bible Buzz pages. Have kids get into pairs, find the “Honor Interview” section, and write their names on the pages.

**Say: Imagine that your partner is the most important person you’ve met so far in your life. I’d like you to interview this person to get to know him or her as completely as you can.**

Give pairs several minutes to interview each other. As pairs are interviewing and presenting, play “Pomp and Circumstance” (track 8 on the CD). When pairs have finished, have kids each prepare a 15-second speech about their partner. When they’ve finished, have pairs join with another pair to form foursomes. Ask kids to share their speeches one at a time in their groups.

### Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead kids in this discussion.

Ask:

- How did you feel honored by your partner’s speech?
- What’s the best way to honor someone?
- Who are some people we honor?

**Say: Honoring others isn’t something we think of doing very often. But today we’re going to look into honoring the one person who deserves the most honor—Jesus.**

► **JESUS IS OUR KING** and deserves our honor.

**2** BIBLE  
EXPLORATION



# How Can He Be Honored?

## What You'll Do

Show kids the “People Rejoice as Jesus Enters Jerusalem” picture on the Bible Timeline.  
 Say: **Let’s look at a passage in the Bible that tells how people honored Jesus.** Have kids form five groups, and give Bibles to each group. Have each group open to Mark 11:1-11.

Say: **In this passage, people went to great lengths to show Jesus that they honored him. And if you look closely at this passage, you’ll see they did it in different ways. I’m going to assign you different people or items to look at as you read this passage. Come up with a way to define the word *honor* based on the way the people showed honor or the way objects were used to show Jesus honor.**

Distribute paper and pens. Assign groups the following parts: Cloaks used on the road and on the colt, the Colt, the Colt Owners, the Disciples, and the Crowd. Remind groups to define *honor* based on their person or item. For example, the Cloak group could say the item was used to provide an honored pathway for Jesus to travel on. Give groups five minutes to study the passage and create their definitions.

Say: **Now let’s act out your group’s assigned part in honoring Jesus. I’ll read the passage, and when you hear your person or object mentioned, simply act out the role.**

Before you begin reading, have groups find their places. The Colts, the Colt Owners, and the Disciples should be “off stage.” Show the Crowd how to hold the Cloaks by putting their hands on the shoulders of the kids playing the part of the Cloaks. Have the Crowd hold the Cloaks and mill around. Once all the preteens are in their places, begin reading the passage aloud, stopping when each group will act.

## Talk With Kids

Lead kids in this discussion.

Ask:

- **How did your group’s person or item show honor to Jesus?**
- **How might that translate into a way you could show honor to Jesus asking?**
- **What did you notice about how these people honored Jesus as king?**

Say: **The neat thing about this Bible passage is that these people honored Jesus with what they had. They simply honored him with their words and actions. They didn’t dress up or buy something new or act like someone they weren’t. They knew who Jesus was, and their only response to his presence was to honor him.**  
 ► **JESUS IS OUR KING, and we can honor him with our actions and words.**

### How Can He Be Honored? Supplies

- 
- Bibles
  - paper
  - pens
  - Teacher Pack**
  - Bible Timeline



## Honor Poems Supplies

Bible Buzz

pens

CD player

**Teacher Pack**

CD: “Quiet Music”  
(track 9)

## 3 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

### Honor Poems

#### What You’ll Do ■■■■■■

Have kids form groups of three and find the Key Verse, Philippians 2:10-11, on their Bible Buzz pages. Have a willing preteen in each group read it aloud: “That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

**Say: The people who met Jesus on the road to Jerusalem did just that: They took a radical step to honor Jesus as king. They didn’t care about how they looked or even if their cloaks were ruined. Their response was a result of being in the presence of Jesus the king. Let’s consider what it might be like to honor Jesus with a poem.**

Direct groups to the “Honor Poem” section of their Bible Buzz pages. Have groups work through the questions but hold off on writing the poem.

**Say: Now that you’ve done a bit of research, work together in your groups to create a poem. Your poem can be in any style you choose. It could rhyme or be freestyle; it could be a rap with a backbeat—whatever you decide.**

Play “Quiet Music” (track 9 on the CD) in the background as kids work, and continue playing it until all the groups have written their poems. When everyone has finished, have groups present their creations. Groups may simply read the poems, or they may choose a more creative way of presenting them.

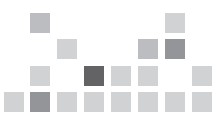
#### Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead kids in this discussion.

Ask:

- What did you learn about honoring Jesus through this experience?
- In what ways is Jesus like a king?
- What are some ways people treat kings?
- What can we learn from that about how to honor Jesus?

**Say: There are many ways we can honor Jesus—with actions and words, just as the people did in Jerusalem. We can honor him because ► JESUS IS OUR KING.**



# Service of Surrender

## What You'll Do

Say: ► **JESUS IS OUR KING**, and one way we can show our king how much we love him is to sing songs of praises to him.

Distribute copies of the lyrics, and play “At the Name of Jesus” (Philippians 2:10-11) (track 10 on the CD). Have kids sing along.

 **He is Lord!**

**That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow  
In heaven and earth and under the earth.  
At the name of Jesus every knee should bow  
In heaven and earth and under the earth,**

**And every tongue confess to Jesus' holiness;  
And every tongue confess to Jesus' holiness.  
He is Lord, Lord, Lord!  
He is Lord, Lord, Lord!  
He is Lord, Lord, Lord!  
He is Lord, Lord, Lord!**

*(Repeat from the beginning.)*

**He is Lord, Lord, Lord!  
He is Lord, Lord, Lord!  
He is Lord, Lord, Lord!  
He is Lord, Lord, Lord!**  
*(Repeat.)*

**He is Lord! He is Lord!**

“At the Name of Jesus” (Philippians 2:10-11) by Ben Glover. © 2005 Group Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved.

Say: **Today we've seen how people in the Bible honored Jesus, and we've seen how other people who might live around us could honor him. We may lift our hands in praise or speak our honor with our mouths.**

**Think about how you could honor him. Remember what the disciples said to the owners of the colt? They said, “The Lord needs this.” Giving Jesus the honor he deserves as our king means that we recognize that there are things in our lives that God needs from us. And the way we honor him is to give him what he desires from us.**

Direct kids to the “Body Outline” section on their Bible Buzz pages. Have kids look at it and consider how they can honor Jesus as king with something in their lives. Encourage preteens to write a prayer on the body, committing to honor Jesus in that way this week. Allow three or four minutes for this.



## Service of Surrender Supplies

- Bible Buzz
- pens
- CD player
- copies of the lyrics page (at the end of this lesson)
- chair
- Teacher Pack**
- CD: “At the Name of Jesus” (Philippians 2:10-11) (track 10)



Say: **Close your eyes and imagine that you're sitting before God's throne. You're totally unaware of other people around you.**

While kids have their eyes closed, move the chair to the front of the room.

Say: **And you want to spend time honoring Jesus by laying down something for him. Now open your eyes, and let's honor Jesus.**

Instruct preteens to lay their "Body Outlines" at the foot of the chair. Then spend the next few minutes in silent prayer.

### Talk With Kids ■■■■

When you've finished, have kids retrieve their Bible Buzz pages and lead them in this discussion.

Ask:

- **How was this exercise like what those people did when Jesus entered Jerusalem?**
- **What do you find hardest to give to Jesus?**
- **How can we show Jesus is king over our daily lives?**

Say: **The people honored Jesus with their words and actions, and he asks the same thing of us. ► JESUS IS OUR KING, and we can act like he is, every day.**

## 4 LASTING IMPRESSIONS

### Daily Challenges

#### Daily Challenges Supplies

Bible Buzz

#### What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Say: **Let's think about how we can show this week that ► JESUS IS OUR KING.**

Have kids find this week's Daily Challenges on their Bible Buzz pages and choose one to do this week. They can choose one or more of these three options:

- **Show that Jesus is king over your time by growing closer to him through prayer and devotions.**
- **Tell someone about how Jesus is the king of your life.**
- **Sing a song or write a poem as a way to show Jesus that he's your king.**

Make sure you choose a Daily Challenge as well, and tell the kids what you chose. Kids will be more inclined to follow through on their commitments when they see you doing the same.



## Talk With Kids

Lead kids in this discussion.

Ask:

- **What's a practical way you're going to do your Daily Challenge? Include a time, place, and other ideas.**

Say: **Jesus is worthy of honor—the same sort of honor those people showed him on that road so long ago. Let's show this week that ► JESUS IS OUR KING by honoring him with our Daily Challenges.**

## Weaving Faith at Home

Encourage kids to talk with their parents about the Daily Challenges they chose and what they learned about Jesus being our king. Kids can also do the activities in the “HomeConnect” section of their Bible Buzz pages with their families.

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church's families! Available at [group.com/digital](http://group.com/digital).

Take a couple of minutes to pray with your kids, thanking Jesus for being our king.





## Lyrics ■■■■

# At the Name of Jesus (Philippians 2:10-11)

He is Lord!  
 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow  
 In heaven and earth and under the earth.  
 At the name of Jesus every knee should bow  
 In heaven and earth and under the earth,

And every tongue confess to Jesus' holiness;  
 And every tongue confess to Jesus' holiness.  
 He is Lord, Lord, Lord!  
 He is Lord, Lord, Lord!  
 He is Lord, Lord, Lord!  
 He is Lord, Lord, Lord!

*(Repeat from the beginning.)*

He is Lord, Lord, Lord!  
 He is Lord, Lord, Lord!  
 He is Lord, Lord, Lord!  
 He is Lord, Lord, Lord!  
*(Repeat.)*

**He is Lord! He is Lord!**

"At the Name of Jesus" (Philippians 2:10-11) by Ben Glover. © 2005 Group Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved.

