



R.E. LESSON PLAN - WATFORD SCHOOLS TRUST

LESSON TITLE Easter – Palm Sunday	LEARNING STAGE KS1	WST TEACHER/DATE Mrs Tricia Bastable/ Mrs Johanna Jordan
AIM: To consider the events and meaning of Palm Sunday and its place in the Easter story. LEARNING OBJECTIVE: To explore the events of Palm Sunday and why Christians celebrate it.	MAIN AREA/S OF LEARNING (Herts R.E. Agreed Syllabus 2017-22) Beliefs and practices Sources of wisdom Other AOL covered: Justice and fairness	LESSON RESOURCES WST provides: Lesson video https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F1H_TXZqo5g Worksheets are available on our website www.watfordschoolstrust.org/lesson-plans/ School to provide:

Introduction:

Johanna introduces the lesson by asking children what hat she should wear to a party. This leads to her wearing a king's crown and the question "What kind of king would you be?"

Johanna then introduces Jesus (important to the Christian faith) and the story of Palm Sunday. Palm Sunday is the beginning of Holy week that leads up to Easter. On Palm Sunday, Jesus was welcomed in Jerusalem as a king. The story of Palm Sunday helps to understand who Christians believe Jesus was.

Tricia reads the story of Palm Sunday. In summary: Jesus arrives in Jerusalem for the Passover festival. He asks for a donkey and rides the donkey into the city. People start cheering for Jesus. They put their coats on the road and wave with palm branches. They welcomed Jesus as king. The religious leaders were unhappy about this and asked Jesus to tell the people to be quiet. But Jesus replied that even if the crowd was to be quiet, the stones on the road would shout for joy.

Johanna explains what happened. People welcomed Jesus as a king. Palm leaves are a symbol of royalty. The coats on the road were like a red carpet to welcome their king. And they cheered for Jesus to welcome their king. Johanna compares this with how people clapped and cheered for the doctors and nurses in the NHS during the last year.

But what kind of king is Jesus? Jesus rode a donkey. A donkey is a symbol of one who serves. Jesus came to be a 'servant king'. Christians believe that Jesus was a king who came into the world to show people how to be friends with God and with each other. Jesus showed that he was a servant king by healing many people and by washing his friends' feet just before the Last Supper. Ultimately he gave his life for his friends to bring forgiveness of sins (the wrong things we do, say or think). Johanna shows the BSL sign for Jesus (pointing at the palms of the hands) which refers to Jesus death on the cross.

She finishes the lesson by asking if the children were king or queen: 'what kind of king or queen would they be?'. Would they rule the country as a powerful king or be like a servant king? Would they be willing to give something up to help others?

Please note: another video lesson covering the Easter Story with a focus on Jesus' death and resurrection is available and would follow on nicely from this video lesson!

Activity:

Worksheets are available through our website.

For further lesson plans, resources and support material visit
www.watfordschoolstrust.org or email info@watfordschoolstrust.org

