

## PALM BRANCH MAZE

*Children find their way to Jesus through a maze of palm branches.*

**TOPICS:**

Celebration, Easter, Jesus, Worship

**MATERIALS:**

Maze for each child [PDF] [Click here](#)

Pencils or markers

**DURATION:**

Approximately 10 minutes



**PREPARATION:**

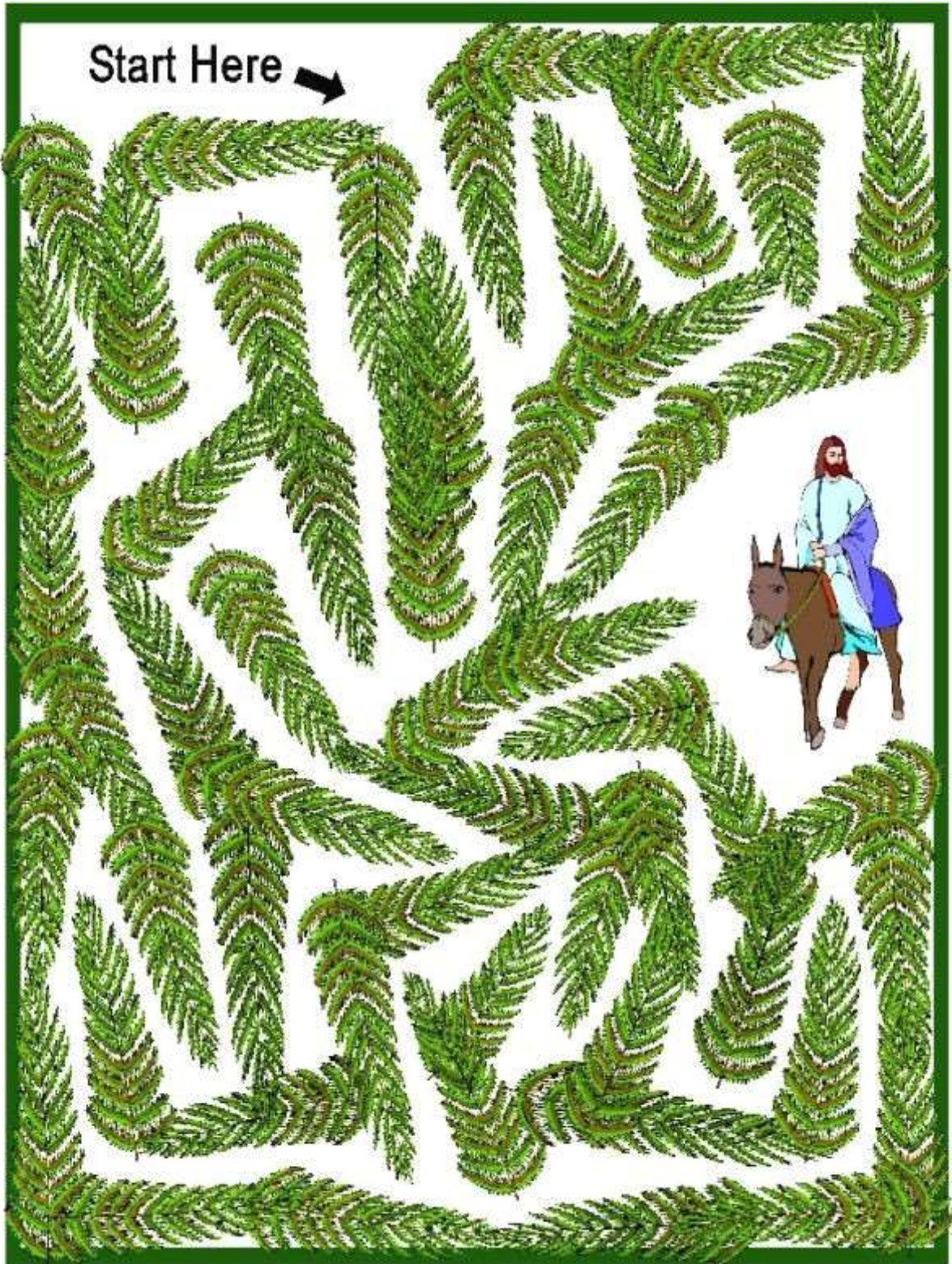
Print out a copy of the maze for each child in class.

**WHAT YOU WILL DO:**

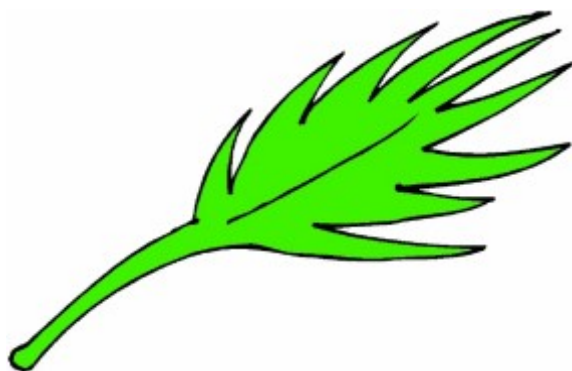
Give each child a pencil or marker and a copy of the maze. This is an easy maze designed for younger children. Have the kids find their way to Jesus through a maze of palm branches. Ask if anyone solved the maze without any mistakes, did any of them end up going the wrong way? Explain that life can be like a maze sometimes; with lots of twists, turns, and dead ends. If we keep our lives focused on Jesus, we will never be lost.

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*Find your way to Jesus through the maze of palm branches.*



**Circle the pictures that were mentioned in our story today.  
Draw an "X" over the others.**



## EASTER LESSONS (STAND-A-LONE)

### LESSON 1: THE TRIUMPHAL ENTRY

Lessons in this series: 1 [2 Overview](#)

*In this lesson, children discover that they can celebrate Easter by praising Jesus for coming to be our Savior.*

#### TOPICS

Celebration, Easter, Jesus, Praise, Worship

#### AS KIDS ARRIVE (10 MINUTES)

**Palm Branch Maze (Activity)** [Click here](#)

#### WORSHIP TIME (5 MINUTES)

Further info? [Click here](#)

#### BIBLE VERSE (5 MINUTES)

**"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord." Matthew 21:9b NIV**

Talk to the children about how many people gathered along the road to see and worship Jesus as He rode into Jerusalem. Many of the people were shouting, "Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord." Have the children shout this verse a few times in unison.

#### BIBLE STORY (15 MINUTES)

Gather the children around you in preparation for story time. After the introduction, read the story right from the Bible. If possible, use a Children's Bible so it will be easier for the kids to understand.

#### Introduction:

Our Bible story today is about the time Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a little donkey. He asked some of His disciples to go ahead of Him into the city, find a donkey, and bring it to Him. Let's read what happened.

#### Read Matthew 21:6-11 (Jesus Rides on a Donkey)

#### Discussion Questions:

1. Why did the disciples bring a donkey to Jesus? (*So Jesus could ride on it.*)
2. Did many people gather to see Jesus? (*Yes, a very large crowd gathered to see Jesus.*)
3. What things did the crowd lay on the road in front of Jesus? (*Coats and branches.*)
4. What did the people shout as Jesus came down the road? (*Hosanna, blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.*)
5. How can we celebrate and praise Jesus? (*Allow for answers.*)

#### FUN TIME (10 MINUTES)

**A Young Boy's Donkey (Story)** [Click here](#)

#### ALTERNATE FUN TIME (10 MINUTES)

**Triumphal Entry Story Pictures (Activity)** [Click here](#)

#### PRAYER/SNACK (10 MINUTES)

Further info? [Click here](#)

Begin by praying to God and thanking Him for sending Jesus. Provide a snack of potato chips or fruit roll-ups to represent the branches and cloaks spread on the road before Jesus. While eating, have a discussion about how we can worship and praise Jesus today.

#### CLOSING ACTIVITY (5-10 MINUTES)

**Riding on a Little Donkey (Song)** [Click here](#)

#### NEXT WEEK

Time to choose another lesson series from Kids Sunday School Place.

#### TAKE HOME PAGE

Give one copy to each child at the end of the class to take home [PDF]. [Click here](#)

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## A YOUNG BOY'S DONKEY

**A story about how a young boy's little donkey that went from ordinary to extraordinary because of our Lord Jesus.**

### TOPICS:

Animals, Celebration, Easter, Jesus, Worship

### DURATION:

Approximately 10 minutes

A long time ago, there was a young boy who loved horses. He begged his father to buy him one all the time. He even saved up some of his own money to buy his very own horse.



"Pappa," he said one day. "Look, I have money now to buy my horse."

His father looked at the boy, then at the money, and said, "Son, you did a good job saving your money, but I'm afraid that won't be nearly enough to buy a real horse."

"Okay," the boy said, "I'll keep on saving. Someday I'll have enough. I want to buy a horse like the Roman soldiers ride."

What the young boy did not know was that his father was planning to buy him a horse this very day for his birthday. Later that morning, his father went to the only stable in town to find the perfect horse for his son.

When he arrived, he found a young colt, just the right size. "How much for this young colt?" he asked the owner.

"Oh no," the owner replied. "That colt is already sold and we don't have any more horses for sale. The Roman soldiers came yesterday and bought all I had. Well, except for that little donkey sleeping over there in the corner."

"My son will be so disappointed," said the boy's father. "I was planning to give him a horse for a birthday gift. How much do you want for the donkey?"

"The donkey belongs to my son," the owner replied. "He has never been ridden but he is very gentle and well behaved. My son is away working for the Roman governor and can't take care of him anymore, so you can have him if you promise to give him a good home."

"Oh that would be wonderful!" said the boy's father. "I'm sure my son will love to have his very own little donkey."

The donkey was indeed very small, so the boy's father decided to walk him back home. Besides, he wanted his son to have the first ride. When he arrived, he proudly presented the little donkey to his son and explained how he once belonged to the stable owner's son.

The young boy upon seeing the donkey started crying. "It's not a horse father. How can I become a respected rider with a little donkey? Famous people all ride horses." Then he walked away, looking very sad.

The boy's father went up to the donkey, and spoke gently to him. "You may be small and have no experience, but you seem gentle, and friendly, and....oh well, maybe someday my son will accept you." Then he tied the little donkey to a tree. Moments later, two men came up to him. They pointed to the little donkey and asked the boy's father for a special favor. They wanted to borrow the donkey.

A few hours passed when suddenly his son came running up to the house with his friends. "Father, come with us!" the boy shouted. "The King is here! Everyone is along the roadside waiting for Him."

"What do you mean, 'The King'?"

"Jesus, 'The King,' remember? He is at the city gate and everyone is rejoicing. Let's go and see Him!"

They all ran together down to the roadside. When they got there, they found everyone singing praises and waving palm branches. They could hear the people shouting, "Hosanna! Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!"

The young boy grabbed his father's hand and said, "Father, look! Jesus is almost here!"

"My son, look closely!" said his father with excitement. "Jesus is riding on a little donkey!"

"Yes father," the boy said sobbing with joy. "The King is riding on my magnificent donkey."

**THE END**

