

April Week 2

April 13th/14th

LARGE GROUP

Palm Sunday

HOST:

“Hello, friends! It is a big celebration weekend here! This weekend we celebrate Palm Sunday – the weekend before Easter! I can’t wait to sing and praise Jesus with you today, but first, let me ask you a very important question - **Who is your friend?** (**Jesus is my friend!**)

“That’s right! God sent Jesus to be our friend and he wants to be our friend forever! Let’s sing our brand-new song about how Jesus wants to be our friend forever!”

SONG 1: FRIEND FOREVER

SONG 2: PRAISE THE LORD EVERY DAY

WORSHIP LEADER:

Wow! I love hearing you praise Jesus! God loves it, too! **Who is your friend?** (**Jesus is my friend!**)

“That’s right! **Jesus is my friend**, and friends love each other, don't they? That’s what our memory verse is all about. Are you ready to do it with me? Let’s do it! A friend (*hook your pointer fingers together*) loves (*hug yourself*) at all times (*stretch your arms out to each side with your palms facing up as you turn in a circle*), Proverbs 17:17. (*Open your hands like a book.*) Do that with me.”

(Practice a couple more times.)

“Way to go! You are doing great with that verse. Never forget that Jesus is your friend and that He loves you.”

STORYTELLER: (bring palm branch with you!)

“Today I am going to tell you a true story from the Bible . . .

(Hold up the Bible, open it, and lay it aside.)

“. . . about our good friend Jesus. **Who is your friend?**” **“Jesus is my friend!”**

STORYTELLER: (bring palm branch with you!)

“You got it! Today’s story is about our good friend Jesus.

“A long time ago, Palm Sunday was the day when Jesus came riding into the town of Jerusalem. When all the people heard Jesus was coming, they got SO excited they grabbed palm branches and stood by the road so they could cheer for Jesus when He came by.

“When they saw Jesus (*wave palm branch*), they waved their palm branches in the air and said ‘Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus!’

(Put the palm branch down.)

“Hey! I have an idea! I want you to stand up right where you are and pretend your hands are palm branches. I want you to wave your hands in the air when I wave my palm branch and we’ll say, ‘Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus,’ together. Are you ready? Here we go!”

Great job! You can sit down. The word ‘hosanna’ means praise. When the people shouted, ‘Hosanna!’ they were praising Jesus and telling Him how special He is. Let’s watch and see what Ollie has to say!

OLLIE VIDEO: PALM SUNDAY

STORYTELLER:

“Jesus is such a good friend. We can praise him all the time! One way we can praise him is by praying. Let’s fold our hands and close our eyes and pray together.

PRAYER “Dear God, we praise Jesus today for being SO amazing! He is the best friend ever! Thank You for sending Jesus to be with us so we can know You and learn how to love people. We love You, God. In Jesus’ name, amen.”

HOST:

Now let’s stand up and praise him by singing “Hosanna!”

SONG 3: HOSANNA ROCK