

Open your Bible to Matthew 21. Use the Bible storytelling tips found in the leader guide to help you tell the story. Use the bold version of the Bible story for younger preschoolers.

JESUS' TRIUMPHAL ENTRY

Jesus and His disciples were traveling toward Jerusalem. *When they came near a village,* **Jesus told two disciples, "Go into the village. You will find a young donkey** *tied there.* **Bring it to me." The disciples did just what Jesus said.**

They put their coats on the donkey's back and helped Jesus sit on the donkey. *Long ago, a prophet had said a King would come gently, riding on a donkey. Now* **the people saw Jesus and knew something special was happening.**

As Jesus rode into the city, people spread their coats on the road. Others cut branches from the trees and laid them on the road. Everyone shouted with joy, "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!"

The crowd walked ahead of Jesus and followed behind, cheering for Him like a king.

Some religious leaders told Jesus to quiet the people, but Jesus said, "If they were quiet, even the rocks would shout."

When Jesus looked at the city, He felt sad. He knew many people didn't understand that He came to bring peace with God, not to be the kind of king they hoped for.