



RLA Kids Weekly Devotional Guide

March 25, 2018

What We're Learning This Week

“JESUS TRIUMPHAL ENTRY”

MATTHEW 21:1-17; MARK 11:1-11; LUKE 19:28-44; JOHN 12:12-19

During Jesus' triumphal entry, the people welcomed Him as King. Jesus was the Messiah spoken about by the prophet Zechariah: “Look, your King is coming to you; He is righteous and victorious, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey” (Zechariah 9:9). One day, Jesus will return to earth on a white horse as King over everything. (Revelation 19:11)

Questions to Ask, Conversation Starters, and Helping to Apply The Truths to Our Kids' Lives

Remember: this guide is meant to help facilitate conversations and engagement with Jesus throughout the week, so don't feel like you need to do this all in one day!

BEFORE WE MEET TOGETHER ON SUNDAY

- Continue conversations as a family regarding the lesson from last Sunday, when James reminded the church that Jesus commanded believers to love one another. The guide from last week can be found [here](#).
- Read through Matthew 21:1-17; Mark 11:1-11; Luke 19:28-44; and John 12:12-19; pray and ask God to reveal himself to you and for wisdom in how to best shepherd and disciple your kids through this Scripture in the next week

AFTER WE MEET TOGETHER ON SUNDAY

Discipleship Through Scripture and Conversation

- Talk to your kids about the Bible story that they learned at church. Ask them to explain what they learned/what stuck out to them in the story, and expand upon the truths of the Bible that they are bringing up.
- Continue the conversation with your kids on Sunday and throughout the week. Some helpful conversations this week could be:
 1. Many of the accounts in these Scriptures refer to Jesus fulfilling the prophecy of the coming Messiah.
 - Talk together as a family about what this means. Refer back to the Old Testament and look for examples of Israel's prophecies about their coming King. Some helpful places to

start are the book of Isaiah (specifically Isaiah 53 - the Suffering Servant), Zechariah 9, and many of the Psalms (specifically Psalm 8)

- Ask your kids questions about the Messiah described in the Old Testament scriptures. Does the way this Messiah is described sound Jesus? In what ways yes, and in what ways no?
 - The people welcoming Jesus into Jerusalem believed He was the promised Messiah, but they expected Him to overthrow Roman oppression and set up an earthly throne. Jesus sent a different message. How was His message different than what the people expected? How did it still fulfill the prophecy they were promised? What does this tell us about God and how he chooses to reign as King?
2. Coming into Jerusalem on a donkey, Jesus showed his followers that He was not going to rule through political power, but through humble service.
- How can Jesus reign both as our strong leader but also as a humble servant?
 - In Isaiah 35:4-6 He proclaims that He is not just their King, but their God. How was this possible? How can Jesus be both fully God and fully man? If Jesus is fully God, why did He have to die? And why did He come to earth in the first place? We're excited for these conversations for your family and will be praying for God to reveal Himself in them!
3. One day Jesus will return. In Revelation 19 we see Jesus coming back and fully reigning over His creation forever!
- Talk together as a family. How should we prepare for Jesus returning? Does that mean we are to do nothing now? If not, how should we engage with the world?

Discipleship through prayer

- Take time to pray together as a family.
 - Praise God that He sent Jesus to die for our sin and to bring us life! Rejoice in the triumph of Easter and take time this week to pray over the narrative of the Gospel. Lament the darkness of sin and pain in the world, praise God for entering into the brokenness and taking the wrath we deserve, and celebrate that He is no longer in the grave but He is risen indeed!
 - Ask each member of your family - adults included - to share one thing they would like prayer over. Have someone to pray for that person's request. Encourage your family to pray for that person for the entire week.
- Take time to pray independently for your children, for God to do his mighty work in their hearts through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Discipleship through modeling/action

- Follow up throughout the week about the things you discussed
 - Take time each day to explore the depths of this Holy Week. Reflect on Jesus' incarnation, talk about His fulfillment of the prophecy of the Messiah described in the Old Testament, mourn the death that we deserved but Jesus took, and celebrate the resurrection and power over Satan, death, and darkness. Ask God to reveal Himself in your families' hearts, and ask the Holy Spirit how you are to respond in obedience to His goodness.
- Pursue discipleship in your own life. Read Scripture, pray fervently, invest into community, and more. Model the ways of Christ as an example to your kids.

Our Memory Verse for This Unit

OUR MEMORY VERSE FOR THIS UNIT (ENTITLED "THE GOD WHO LEADS") IS GALATIANS 2:20

- *For our older kids, we are doing the full verse:*
 - "I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh, I live by faith in the Son of God who loved me and gave himself for me"
- *For our younger kids, we are doing an abbreviated version of the verse:*
 - "I live by faith in the Son of God who loved me and gave himself for me"

While we are helping the kids engage with this Scripture on Sundays through fun activities and time together, we really encourage you to take time to continue to engage with the memorization of this Scripture at home. As always, the hope is not to have our kids simply know a lot of Scripture, but to engage in God's Word and allow Him to use it to transform the hearts of our kids!

What's Coming Up?

- Want weekly updates and occasional texts about special announcements? Text the word "Kids" to 323.859.1122. It really helps in preparing for Sunday and the rest of the week!

We Want to Know and Serve You Better!

We love hearing from you! You can email kids@realityla.com at any time with any thoughts, questions, or concerns. We also love to be praying with and alongside you, so please send those over as well.