



Tree House

Holy – Lesson I

2s and 3s

Memory Verse: Romans 6:23 “For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus.” (KJV)

Key Point: Jesus saves us from our sin.

Bible Verse: Mark 11:1-11, Luke 19:29-38, John 12:12-15

SCHEDULE:

Center Time

around 10 minutes

Help the individuals transition by actively engaging them from the beginning. Try setting up centers to color, play with blocks and Play-Doh, or do puzzles.

Memory Verse

Use the Memory Verse page and images to go over the memory verse by placing them in the correct order on the board (personal or pocket chart).

Coloring Sheet

Big Group Time

Lesson

- Read through the lesson below. For a shortened version, just read the bolded words.
- Within the lesson, there are numbers that correspond to the story point pictures. For example, (1) corresponds to the first story point and picture, and so on.
- Allow individuals to place pictures on the board (personal or pocket chart) in sequential order.

- Key Point
- Use the review questions to check for understanding.

Repeat Key Point & Memory Verse

Use the activities below for repetition of the story points, key points, and memory verse.

- Act out the Story.
- Bean Bag Toss: restate part of the story, memory verse, or key point when tossing.

Activity

Five Finger Gospel (optional)

LESSON:

This is a story from Mark 11 in the Bible (1). **Jesus and his disciples are heading to Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover (2).** Many other people are also in Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover. When they hear that Jesus is coming, they are very excited! Many people have seen the miracles Jesus has done and want to make Jesus their king!

As **Jesus** comes into Jerusalem, he **says to his disciples, “Go into the village and as soon as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there (3), on which no one has ever sat. Untie the colt and bring it here (4).** If anyone says to you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ you say, ‘The Lord needs it and will return it soon.’”

When **the disciples go into the village (5),** they find the colt just as Jesus had said. As they start to untie the colt, a man asks, “Why are you untying this colt?” They answer him just as Jesus

told them and say, “The Lord has need of it.” The man tells them they can take the colt, and **they bring the colt to Jesus** (6).

As **Jesus rides into Jerusalem** (7), the people spread their coats on the road, and others wave and put down palm branches that they have cut from the trees. **The people shout, “Hosanna!** (8) Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”

These people want to make Jesus their king here on earth, but we know that is not the kind of king God planned for Jesus to be at this time. At this time, **God planned for Jesus to die** to pay **for our sins** (9). Jesus is God’s Son. He came and lived a perfect, holy life—which means **Jesus never sinned** (10). Our sin separates us from God. Jesus came to save us from our sins by giving his life to pay for our sin. We need to be sorry for our sin and ask God to forgive us when we sin, and he will forgive us!

Key Point: Jesus saves us from our sin.

Review Questions

1. **Who did Jesus’ friends want Jesus to be?** (Their king on earth.)
2. **What did Jesus tell his disciples they would find tied to a tree?** (A colt, a donkey that had never been ridden on.)
3. **What did the people wave at Jesus as he rode into Jerusalem riding on the colt?** (Palm branches.)
4. **What did the people shout as Jesus rode on the colt?** (Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!)

ACTIVITIES:

Donkey for Jesus

Supplies

- Donkey worksheet (one per child)
- Scrap of fabric or construction paper (one per child)

- Googly eyes (one per child)
- Crayons
- Glue/glue sticks

Tell your class that they will be making something to remind them of Jesus riding into Jerusalem. Have the children color the donkey with crayons. Then, help them glue a piece of fabric or construction paper to the back of the donkey (like a blanket or coat) and add a googly eye. Write the child’s name on the back of their craft and set it aside to dry.

Have fun and let them do the crafts themselves, as much as possible. This is a hands-on way for them to learn who God is and remember what they learn. It doesn’t matter if they place the label or stickers in the wrong spot. What matters is teaching them who God is.

He Destroyed the Wall

Supplies

- Bible
- Blocks

(Have the children sit in a circle on the floor next to the blocks in the room.) Let’s all say our new memory verse together. **“The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.” Romans 6:23. Let’s talk about this verse. What is sin?** (Allow children to give examples. Teachers, give examples if they do not come up with any.) **Sin is anything that we do, say, or think that does not please God. Sin is anything that is not holy. God is perfectly holy. He has no sin. We are not perfectly holy. We all sin. Because God is perfectly holy, he cannot be around sin, so our sin separates us from God.**

Do you see these blocks? We are going to use them to build a wall to show how our sin separates us from God. Each of you will get two blocks and then I want you to line up. We are going to take turns putting our blocks down to make one big wall, and we are not going to knock it down until I say to.

(The teacher's helper can help by having the kids take turns and start building the wall one block at a time while you continue to teach.) **When we choose sin like telling mommy or daddy “no,” throwing a fit, or pouting because we didn’t get our way, our hearts are choosing to do what we want and not what pleases God. God cares about our hearts, and he knows what is best for us. If we have a bad attitude when we choose to obey, we still sin in our hearts. Sin always leads to pain because it separates us from God and his great love for us.**

(The teacher's helper should hide behind the wall that was just built.) **So let's look at this wall. This wall is like our sin. It separates us from God, just like this wall is separating us from _____** (teacher's helper behind wall). **Because we sin, we need a savior. We need Jesus. So God sent Jesus to earth to break down this wall between God and us. Jesus came to live a perfect life, never sin, die to pay for our sin, and then conquer death. Jesus was holy and perfect. He was the only one who could pay the price for our sin. Will you help me knock down the wall? Great! This reminds us that Jesus knocked down the wall between us and God that we build with our sin. Jesus died on the cross and paid the price for our sin. God wants us to see that we sin so that we can repent and turn away from that sin. When we repent and tell God we are sorry for our sin, God will forgive us. He can then change our hearts so that our attitudes and actions can become more like Jesus.**

[Main Points: God is Holy. He has no sin. We all sin. Sin separates us from God because he is perfectly holy. We need a rescuer to save us from our sin and turn us back to God. God sent Jesus to rescue us and tear down the wall that our sin puts between God and us. Because of what Jesus did on the cross, we can have a relationship with him forever. When we tell God we are sorry for our sin, he forgives us. When we turn from our sin and look to God, he can change our hearts, attitudes, and actions. We begin to want what he wants which is holy and good instead of our selfish wants.]