

City LG – April 13-14, 2019

Bible Story: This I Promise You (Palm Sunday) • *John 12:9-16*

Bottom Line: Whatever happens, remember God keeps His promises.

Memory Verse: “*In this world you will have trouble. But be encouraged! I have won the battle over the world.*” John 16:33b, NIV

CG: Countdown Video

WORSHIP: “Give My All” and “All My Days”

NOTE: Take some time to teach a few of the dance moves to your group.

(Worship Leader Prays)

WELCOME:

Supplies Needed: Bible

“Hi, everyone! I’ve got a question for you. Can you imagine if you knew someone who could tell you what would happen in the future? Wouldn’t it be amazing if someone could tell you what was going to happen before it did?

“Well, many years ago, there were some very special men and women who were called prophets. They were given the very important job of telling the world about things that were going to happen in the story of God. One of these men was the prophet Zechariah. We can read one of Zechariah’s prophecies in the Bible. Listen to this.

Open the Bible to Zechariah 9:9 (NIV) and read.

“*City of Zion, be full of joy! People of Jerusalem, shout! See, your king comes to you. He always does what is right. He has won the victory. He is humble and riding on a donkey. He is sitting on a donkey’s colt.*

“Okay. So Zechariah predicted that there would be a king riding on a donkey. Can you guess who that king was? (Pause for response.) Yep. Jesus. And here’s the really amazing part. Zechariah wrote these words HUNDREDS of years before Jesus was born! And just like Zechariah said, Jesus did end up riding into Jerusalem on a donkey.

“Let’s see what was happening with Jesus at the time.”

CG: Lesson Video (Runtime: 4:35)

“The religious leaders refused to see it, but Jesus had once again shown His followers that God was keeping His promises. Jesus was the king and Savior that Zechariah and others had written about so long ago.

“Of course, things were about to get really dark for Jesus. He was about to go to the cross to die for our sins and then come back to life. That’s what we celebrate next week at Easter. But all of these things were part of God’s plan. God would ALWAYS keep His promises, no matter how dark things would get.

CG: Bottom Line Slide

[Bottom Line] “Whatever happens, remember God keeps His promises.

“It’s true! He ALWAYS does. He has promised that He will be with us through everything we might face in life. Even in the dark times, we can always have hope because we know He’s in control.”

"Let's talk to God now and thank Him for being a God we can trust."

Pray: "Dear God, thank You so much for always keeping Your promises. Jesus came to Jerusalem just like Zechariah said He would! Help us to remember that when life seems dark or confusing. Help us to remember that we can have hope because You are good, and You are in control of everything in our lives. We love You, and we ask these things in Jesus' name, amen."

"You know, sometimes it's hard for us to understand that God always keeps His promises, because we might know some people who DON'T keep their promises. And, if we're totally honest, we don't always keep our promises, either.

"But God is different. God ALWAYS keeps His promises! There are amazing examples of God's promises all throughout the Bible. (*Hold up Bible.*) God promised Abraham that he would have a huge family, even though Abraham was really old at the time and didn't have any kids yet. God gave Joseph a dream that showed he would be an important ruler when he grew up, even though his brothers sold him into slavery. And, of course, God kept His promise to send Jesus to be our Savior."

"There are promises in the Bible that Jesus made to us, too. Jesus promised that He would always be with us. So even when bad things happen or we feel afraid, even when we don't understand what's going on, we can trust Jesus and know that He's right there with us. We can remember to have hope and know that God can bring something good out of something bad.

"You know what? I HOPE you all have a fantastic time talking some more about this in Small Group. In fact, I KNOW you will! Before you head there, let's worship God with our offering!"

Offering Time:

"Offering time is a chance for us to bring our money to God, so he can use it to make somebody else's life better. For us, here in the City, we give our offering to an organization called 'Missions of Hope' to help kids in Kenya have food, clothes, and learn about God's love for them. Here at (your Campus name), we bring our offering to help support:

Homer Glen: Victor

New Lenox: Daniel

Orland Park: Michael and Valerie

CG: Picture of Child

"(Your Campus Child) lives in Nairobi, Kenya. Here's a picture of some cool facts about Nairobi!"

CG: Kenyan Facts JPEG

If you brought your offering today, you can bring it up now and place it here in our offering container while our Offering Video plays! (*show offering container*).

CG: Offering Video "Skit Guys Palm Sunday" (Runtime: 4:00)

Dismiss to Small Groups