



LESSON SNAPSHOT

BOTTOM LINE:

Jesus is the perfect example of true love and obedience.

OBJECTIVE:

Kids will learn that Jesus is the perfect example of obedience to God and love for others. They will be challenged to ask God to help them follow in Jesus' example of obedience to God.

KEY PASSAGE:

Mark 11:1-11, The Triumphal Entry (Egg 1: Donkey)

Matthew 26:14-16, Judas Agrees to Betray Jesus (Egg 2: Coins)

Matthew 26:17-30, The Last Supper (Egg 3: Cup)

MEMORY VERSE:

"Anyone who believes in Christ is a new creation. The old is gone! The new has come!"
-2 Corinthians 5:17 (NIRV)

SUMMARY:

Jesus' entry into Jerusalem on a donkey meant he was coming as a king in peace. Judas' shameful betrayal is a representation of all the times we choose to make something in our lives more important than Jesus. The Last Supper shows us that Jesus is the perfect example of love and friendship as he tells his disciples of the sacrifice he is about to make for them and for everyone.

SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Thank you for sending Jesus to save us.

*In Jesus' name,
Amen*



MEMORY VERSE

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!” 2 Corinthians 5:17 (NIV)

*“Anyone who believes in Christ is a new creation. The old is gone! The new has come!”
2 Corinthians 5:17 (NIRV)*

LARGE GROUP:

Have the kids read the verse together. Read it normally, then in a whisper, then really, really loud!

SMALL GROUP:

Give all the kids a Bible. Then after you read the verse, give them the reference and see who can find it first in their Bible.



SKIT

THE CHICKENS ARE TRYING TO TELL YOU SOMETHING

ITEMS NEEDED:

Chairs
The first three Resurrection Eggs

CHARACTER BREAKDOWN:

1F, 1M

CHARACTERS:

Arlene - A TV host
Ernie - A chicken farmer

Arlene is seated in her chair on stage.

ARLENE: Hello, my name is Arlene Bell. Welcome to Weirder Things, the show that explores the strange, the unknown, and the just plain odd. My guest tonight is a chicken farmer who recently found some strange and unusual things in the chicken coop. Please welcome Ernie Portnoy.

Ernie enters and sits down.

ARLENE: Hello, Ernie, tell us about your chickens.

ERNIE: Well, ma'am, there's not much to tell. They're white, they're fat, and they really make a lot of noise.

ARLENE: And recently, they sent you a message?

ERNIE: Yeah, I think they did. You see my chickens usually give a couple eggs every morning.

ARLENE: What kind of eggs?

ERNIE: Mostly white and brown. That is, until the other day. I went to see one of my older chickens, Betsy? And she laid this here colored egg!

SKIT

Ernie pulls out the first colorful egg.

ARLENE: Oooh, what a pretty color.

ERNIE: Then this other chicken, Cindy, she laid an egg that looked like this.

Ernie pulls out a second colorful egg.

ARLENE: Oh my!

ERNIE: Then I go to the next chicken, Snowflake, and she lays an egg like this!

Ernie pulls out a third egg.

ARLENE: Wow!!

ERNIE: I never saw anything like it in my life!

ARLENE: Neither have I. As a matter of fact, those eggs don't even look like normal eggs. They look... plastic!

ERNIE: They are! And they all have something inside!

ARLENE: Really?

ERNIE: Look for yourself.

Ernie opens the first egg.

ERNIE: This looks like a little donkey.

Ernie opens the second.

ERNIE: This one has a coin in it.

Ernie opens the third egg.

ERNIE: And this one here, this has what looks like a little cup in it.

ARLENE: Ernie, this is amazing. Do you know what this means?

ERNIE: I wouldn't be here if I did!

SKIT

ARLENE: Who rode into town on the back of a donkey? And who was betrayed by a friend for thirty coins made of silver? And who took a cup, and blessed it, and passed it around saying, “Do this in remembrance of me?”

ERNIE: I don't know!

ARLENE: It was Jesus. Jesus is the Son of God! He rode into the city of Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, riding on a donkey like a king who had come in peace. He was betrayed by Judas, one of his twelve disciples, who betrayed him.

ERNIE: Why did he do that?

ARLENE: Because Judas didn't have God's plans in mind. He wanted Jesus to do things his way, the same way we do any time we disobey God's Word. Judas agreed to turn Jesus over to men who wanted to harm him for thirty pieces of silver.

ERNIE: Oh no! Poor guy. But what about the cup?

ARLENE: Jesus knew he was going to be betrayed and killed. That's why he took the cup and blessed it saying, “This is my blood, the blood of the new covenant, which will be poured out for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

ERNIE: He knew he was going to die? And he was God? And he didn't stop them? Why?

ARLENE: It was all part of God's perfect plan. Jesus took our place when he died on the cross. He set the perfect example of obedience by following His Father's plan to sacrifice himself for us. It was the perfect example of love.

ERNIE: Oh, I get it! And the cup is how we remember his obedience and his perfect love.

ARLENE: Sounds to me like your chickens wanted to give you something to help you remember all Jesus has done for you.

ERNIE: I certainly won't forget it.

ARLENE: I hope none of my viewers will either. I hope you'll come back and see us again.

ERNIE: You do? Why?

SKIT

ARLENE: Because we're just now at the start of Easter, the time when we remember what Jesus did for us. I have a feeling your chickens have more to share with you.

ERNIE: Well, if they do, you'll be the first to know.

ARLENE: We'll see you next time on Weirder Things.



OBJECT LESSON OR KIDS SERMON

ITEMS NEEDED:

The first three Resurrection eggs

What do a donkey, a coin, and a cup have in common? Sounds like the start of a bad dad joke, doesn't it? But these three things are the beginning of the greatest story ever told - the story of God's perfect love.

The donkey reminds us of Palm Sunday. He rode into Jerusalem on the donkey to symbolize that he was a king who was coming to bring peace to his people.

The coin reminds us of the price Judas was paid to betray Jesus: thirty pieces of silver. Judas had his own plans in mind, and not the plans of God. The coin also reminds us of all the times we disobey God and put our own plans ahead of God.

The cup reminds us of the price Jesus paid to forgive our sins. Jesus knew we could never save ourselves, and he was willing to lay down his own life to save us. He obeyed His Heavenly Father and became our Savior.

As we prepare for this Easter season, let's thank God for the amazing love of Jesus and ask him to make us obedient to his word, just as Jesus obeyed his Father and died for us.



LARGE GROUP GAME

WHAT'S IN THE EGG?

ITEMS NEEDED:

A plastic Easter egg with candy in it

INSTRUCTIONS:

Choose one player for this game. Give them an Easter egg partially filled with one type of candy. The player will shake the egg and guess what's inside by the sound of it. If they guess correctly, they win a prize.

VARIATION:

This game can be repeated several times with different players, different eggs, and different candy.

WHAT'S THE POINT?

The items in our Resurrection Eggs will help us learn the meaning of Easter.



LARGE GROUP LESSON

BOTTOM LINE:

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KEY PASSAGE:

Mark 11:1-11, The Triumphal Entry (Egg 1: Donkey)

Matthew 26:14-16, Judas Agrees to Betray Jesus (Egg 2: Coins)

Matthew 26:17-30, The Last Supper (Egg 3: Cup)

INTRO:

What do you expect to find in your Easter eggs on Easter Sunday? How many of you are looking for some jelly beans in your eggs? What about Skittles? M&Ms? Who is hoping to find at least one egg with some cash in it instead of candy?

Easter eggs are always a welcomed surprise. Whatever is inside, it's usually sweet and yummy, or something that spends easily at Target. As we prepare for the Easter season, we're going to be cracking open a few eggs ourselves - but these eggs are not filled with candy and treats. These eggs are special eggs that will help us to learn the Easter story.

Call them Easter eggs. Call them Resurrection eggs. Each one of these eggs reminds us of one piece of the Easter story - beginning with this egg, that has a donkey inside. Does anyone know what part of the story this is?

READ MARK 11:1-11

Jesus rode into the city of Jerusalem one week before Easter on the day we call Palm Sunday. He rode on a donkey, and the people greeted him with palm branches.

In Biblical times a king would ride a horse into town if he came for war or battle, but if a king rode a donkey into a town, the people knew he had come in peace. That was the meaning of the donkey on Palm Sunday. Jesus came in peace.

LARGE GROUP LESSON

Our second egg this week has a coin in it. This coin reminds us of the next part of the Easter story. It also reminds us of the reason Jesus came to us.

READ MATTHEW 26:14-16

Judas was one of Jesus' disciples, but even though Judas had been with Jesus every day for three years, he didn't get what Jesus was up to. Jesus wasn't doing what Judas thought he should do to save Israel. Jesus had come to fulfill His Father's plans, but Judas wanted Jesus to disobey those plans and do what Judas wanted.

Judas didn't have God's plans in mind. He wanted his own way. We are all guilty of being like Judas. We are selfish. We want to do things our way. We deliberately disobey God.

Sin is what separated us from God in the beginning, way back in the book of Genesis. We disobeyed God and wanted to do things our way. Thankfully Jesus didn't do the same thing. Jesus wanted to obey God and show us God's perfect love. That brings us to the third egg - an egg with a cup inside.

READ MATTHEW 26:17-30

Jesus knew there was only one way to save us. He had to take our place and die for our sins. If Jesus, who never sinned, were to die, he could conquer death and save us.

Jesus knew he would be hurt. He knew he would die a horrible death. If there was another way to save us Jesus would have taken it. But Jesus obeyed His Father because he loves us.

MAIN POINT:

Jesus came in peace to show us the love of God. He wanted to show us a better way to live and to point us to Heaven. The eggs we opened today remind us we have a choice. We can go our own way like Judas, or we can give our hearts to Jesus and obey Him. Jesus set the perfect example of love and obedience, and he wants us to follow after him!

DRIVE IT HOME:

Let's face it: obedience doesn't come easy for any of us. It's hard for kids, and it's hard for adults. The Bible tells us we are sinful and selfish by nature. We don't want to obey. We want to do things our way.

Jesus came to set us free from sin. He wants us to give up our right to ourselves and follow him. He wants us to obey God just as he did. He wants us to love him like he loves us.

LARGE GROUP LESSON

This Easter season, I want to encourage all of you to ask God to help you be more obedient. Spend time in the Bible every day, and ask God to help you remember how to follow him. Jesus set the example. He will show us the way.

Easter is coming. Jesus has come to set us free from sin. It's up to us to lay down our selfish desires and follow the example of Jesus.

CLOSE WITH A SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Thank you for sending Jesus to save us.

*In Jesus' name,
Amen*



SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (K-2ND)

ICEBREAKER:

What is your favorite Easter candy?

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:

2 Corinthians 5:17 (NirV)

Give all the kids a Bible. Then after you read the verse, give them the reference and see who can find it first in their Bible.

SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY:

Play some charades with the kids, having the kids act out their favorite Easter treats.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Read Mark 11:1-11

What does the donkey remind us of?

Read Matthew 26:14-16

What do the coins remind us of?

Read Matthew 26:17-30

What does the cup remind us of?

Why do we need to obey Jesus?

How did Jesus obey His Heavenly Father?

SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Help us to follow the example of Jesus.

*In Jesus' name,
Amen*



SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION (3-5TH)

ICEBREAKER:

What is your favorite Easter candy?

MEMORY VERSE ACTIVITY:

2 Corinthians 5:17 (NirV)

Give all the kids a Bible. Then after you read the verse, give them the reference and see who can find it first in their Bible.

SMALL GROUP GAME/ACTIVITY:

Play some charades with the kids, having the kids act out their favorite Easter treats.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

Read Mark 11:1-11

Why did Jesus ride into Jerusalem on a donkey?

Read Matthew 26:14-16

Why did Judas betray Jesus?

Read Matthew 26:17-30

How did Jesus set an example of obedience for us?

Why is it important to obey God?

How can we learn to become more obedient followers of Christ?

SIMPLE PRAYER:

Dear God,

Help us to follow the example of Jesus.

*In Jesus' name,
Amen*



POWERPOINT REVIEW GAME

EGG QUIZ

Which egg reminded us that Jesus came in peace, like a king?

THE DONKEY

Which egg reminds us that Jesus was obedient to His Heavenly Father?

THE CUP

Which egg reminds us of the times we are sinful and do our own thing?

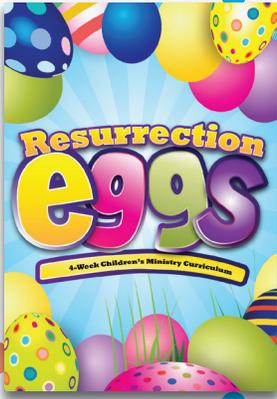
THE COINS

What did the people wave when Jesus rode into Jerusalem?

PALM BRANCHES

True or False: Jesus disobeyed God the Father when He chose to die for us.

FALSE



MAKE IT STICK

5 Simple Ways You Can Make This Lesson Stick With your Kids

Resurrection Eggs Lesson 1

THIS WEEK'S LESSON: PERFECT EGGS-AMPLE



IN THE CAR:

Ask your child what they learned about this week on the drive home:

Jesus' entry into Jerusalem on a donkey meant he was coming as a king in peace.

Judas' shameful betrayal is a representation of all the times we choose to make something in our lives more important than Jesus. The Last Supper shows us that Jesus is the perfect example of love and friendship as he tells his disciples of the sacrifice he is about to make for them and for everyone. Mark 11:1-11, The Triumphal Entry (Egg 1: Donkey) Matthew 26:14-16, Judas Agrees to Betray Jesus (Egg 2: Coins) Matthew 26:17-30, The Last Supper (Egg 3: Cup)



HANGING OUT:

Make this week's lesson real:

Ask your child to show you the eggs they made in church this week and explain what they represent from the Easter story.



AT DINNER:

Here are some great discussion starters:

- How does the donkey tell us that Jesus came in peace?
- Why did Judas betray Jesus?
- Why was Jesus willing to obey God, even though it meant he would die on the cross?



AT BEDTIME:

Quiz your child on this week's memory verse:

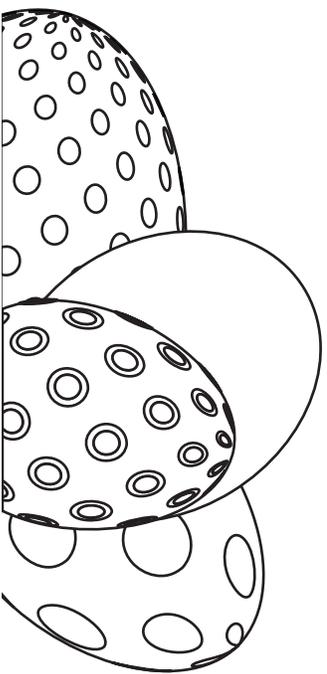
"Anyone who believes in Christ is a new creation. The old is gone! The new has come!"
-2 Corinthians 5:17 (NIRV)



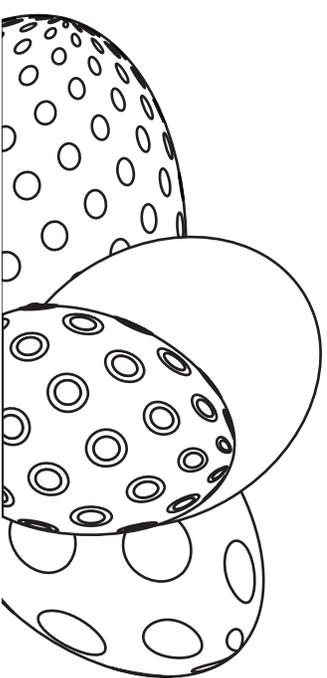
PARENT TIME:

What you need to know:

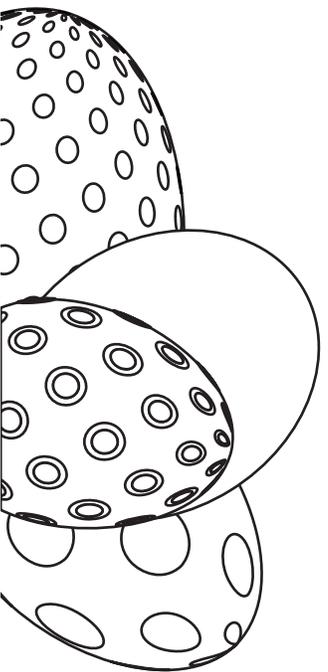
Judas' betrayal reminds us of our own sin, how we want things to be our way and not God's. The Last Supper reminds us that Jesus put obedience ahead of his own wants and laid down his life for us. Ask God to help you be a model of obedience to God's Word for your kids so they can learn to follow him in obedience.



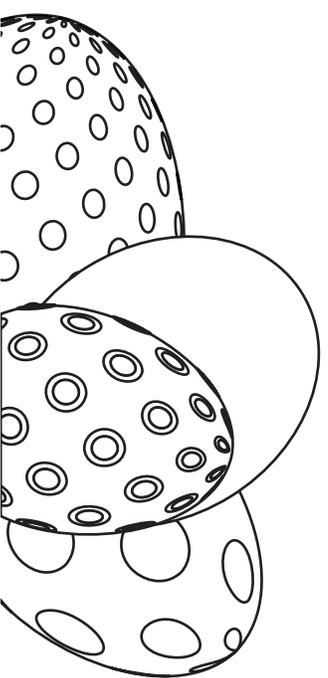
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"Anyone who believes in Christ is a new creation. The old is gone! The new has come!"
- 2 Corinthians 5:17 (NIRV)



CRAFT ACTIVITY

Each week the kids will make Resurrection Eggs to take home.

If funds allow, you can have the kids use actual plastic eggs and make the items to go inside, out of craft materials.

For a simpler alternative you can have kids color the included 3 resurrection eggs coloring pages to go along with this week's lesson.

This weeks items are:

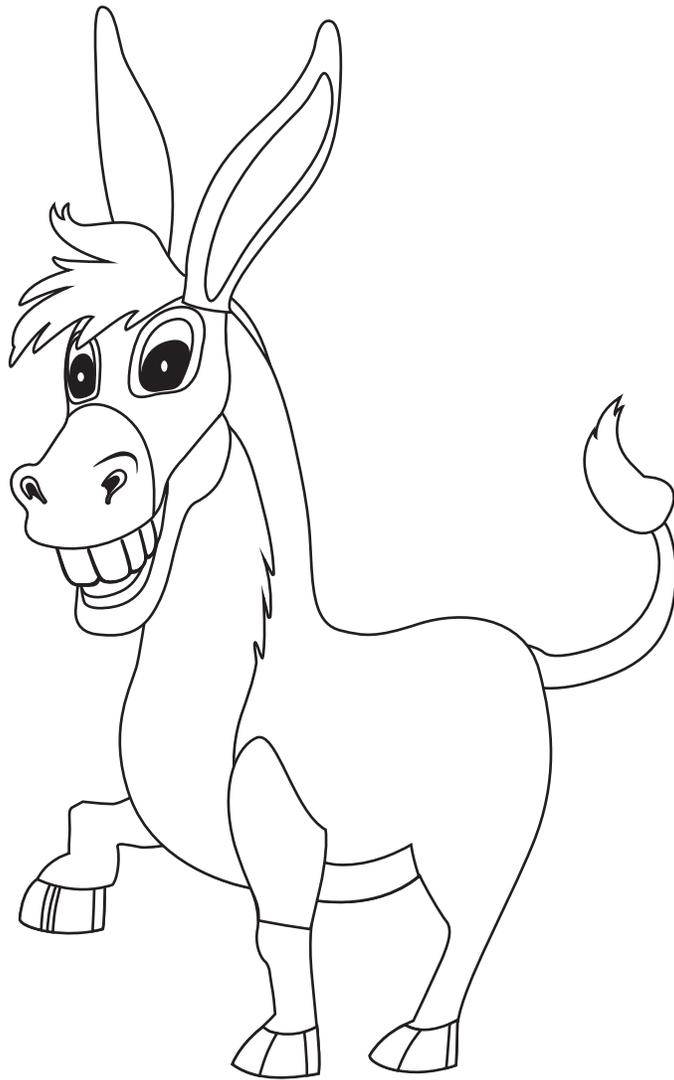
A donkey (Jesus' entry into Jerusalem)

A coin (Judas' betrayal)

A cup (The Last Supper)

MARK

11:1-11



MATTHEW
26:14-16



MATTHEW
26:17-30

