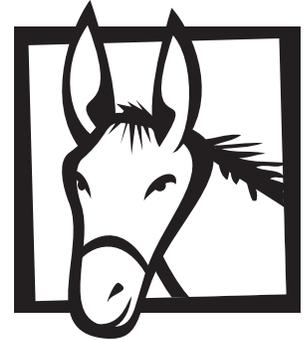


## **READING**

Matthew 21:1-11

## **SYNOPSIS**

Jesus directed his disciples to bring him a donkey so he could enter Jerusalem as was prophesied. The crowd welcomed him with palms as they shouted, "Hosanna."



## **MATERIALS NEEDED**

- Props for pretending to be royalty, such as a crown, cape, or scepter.

## **DEMONSTRATION**

1. Ask for a volunteer. Say: *Today is your lucky day. You have just been chosen king (queen) for a day and you can have anything you wish. So, what will it be?* [Have the class make some suggestions to the volunteer. You may also use props like a crown or cape to add to the scenario.] Continue for a few minutes to develop as clear a picture as possible of how a king would like to be treated.
2. Say: *In Jesus' day, kings were greeted with great parades and traveled in chariots or on horses. People bowed before them to show respect. The Gospel this week tells that when Jesus came to Jerusalem, he was greeted like a king. People formed a parade, waved branches at him, and greeted him with names of great respect. But, Jesus knew this would not last because he had not come as an earthly king. So, instead of coming into their town in a shiny chariot, he asked his friends to bring him a donkey to ride. A donkey was not an animal of honor, but a poor and lowly animal. Many years before Jesus was even born, it was written that God's Son would come to the town of Jerusalem on a lowly donkey. This was just one more way that Jesus proved that he is truly God's Son.*
3. Read the Gospel to the class.
4. Ask and discuss: *How was Jesus like a king? How was he different from other kings?*

