

A Journey to the Cross- Kids Activity Boxes

These hands-on devotionals were created for you to do with your children. There 30 second videos that go along with each to show you want to do.

Day:	Materials needed:	Activity:	Bible Point
Palm Sunday	Dowel rods, thin paper rolls	God Saves/Hosanna Banner	Jesus Saves
Holy Monday	Rocks, paint	Prayer Rocks	Jesus calls us to pray
Holy Tuesday	Rice, Green food dye, cotton balls, cloths pin, large popsicle sticks	Good Shepherd sensory bin	Jesus cares for us
Holy Wednesday	Essential oil droppers	Oil Jars	Jesus wants us to give him our best
Maundy Thursday	Egg crates, clothes pins,	Jesus washes his disciple's feet	Jesus calls us to love one another
Good Friday	Brown playdough, toothpicks	Crown of thorns	Jesus took our punishment
Holy Saturday	Painters tape, small canvas	Tape resist crosses	Jesus died for us
Easter Sunday	Salt and Pepper, balloon	Salt and Pepper Object Lesson	Jesus takes our sin

Palm Sunday Devotional (Day 1)

“As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ² saying to them, “Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. ³ If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away.”

⁴ This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet:

⁵ “Say to Daughter Zion,
‘See, your king comes to you,
gentle and riding on a donkey,
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.’”^[a]

⁶ The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. ⁷ They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. ⁸ A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹ The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted,

“Hosanna^[b] to the Son of David!”

“Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”^[a]

“Hosanna^[a] in the highest heaven!”

—Matthew 21:1-10

Have you ever been to a parade? Parades are so exciting! One thing we may see at a parade is a sign or banner.

When Jesus rode into the town of Jerusalem on Palm Sunday it was like they were having a parade for him. The people threw down their coats, waved palm branches and shouted HOSANNNA!

Hosanna means “God Saves” the people were celebrating Jesus as Savior and King.

On your scroll write the word “God Saves” and decorate it

Remember that Jesus came into this world to save us.

Holy Monday (Day 2)

⁴⁵ And he entered the temple and began to drive out those who sold, ⁴⁶ saying to them, “It is written, ‘My house shall be a house of prayer,’ but you have made it a den of robbers.”

⁴⁷ And he was teaching daily in the temple. The chief priests and the scribes and the principal men of the people were seeking to destroy him, ⁴⁸ but they did not find anything they could do, for all the people were hanging on his words.

Luke 19:45-48

Have you ever heard the story about the time Jesus was mad?

Jesus went into the temple (the place of worship) and found that the people were not honoring God. This mad Jesus so mad.

Jesus saw people who were trying to unfairly take money from other people. This was not right- so Jesus did something about it.

Jesus tells the people that God’s house should be a place of prayer- today we are going to think of a few things that we want to pray about.

Then we will paint our rocks—once the rocks have dried you can use sharpie, glitter glue, puffy paint or whatever you have on hand to write what you want to pray about. If the rocks are too small to write the entire word you can write the first letter that the word starts with, or you can write the initials if it is person that you want to pray for.

Remember that Jesus wants us to honor God by praying

Holy Tuesday (Day 3)

¹¹ “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹² The hired hand is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. ¹³ The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.

¹⁴ “I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me— ¹⁵ just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶ I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd. ¹⁷ The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life—only to take it up again. ¹⁸ No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father.”

John 10:11-18

How does it make you feel to know that Jesus is like our Good Shepherd? That He loves us so much and wants to take good care of us?

Use your materials in your bag (rice, pen, sheep, clothes pin) to retell the story of the good shepherd.

Holy Wednesday (Day 4)

Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. ² Here a dinner was given in Jesus' honor. Martha served, while Lazarus was among those reclining at the table with him. ³ Then Mary took about a pint^[a] of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.

⁴ But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray him, objected, ⁵ "Why wasn't this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It was worth a year's wages.^[b]" ⁶ He did not say this because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; as keeper of the money bag, he used to help himself to what was put into it.

⁷ "Leave her alone," Jesus replied. "It was intended that she should save this perfume for the day of my burial. ⁸ You will always have the poor among you,^[c] but you will not always have me."

John 12:1-8

in the dropper is lavender essential oil it is kids safe for ages 2 and up but should be diluted don't drop it directly on skin

Open up the dropper and smell it.

Ask your child: what does perfume smell like.

People in Jesus' time use perfume to prepare people for burial. They would pour it on the person (this is one of the reasons why Myrrh was brought to Jesus at his birth—it symbolized that Jesus would die [Myrrh was for the burial of the rich and the powerful, not the poor.])

Mary comes and anoints Jesus' feet just a few days before Jesus would die on the cross.

His disciples can't believe she did this- but this moment was significant because it was pointing people to the fact that Jesus would die.

You can use the oil in any of the following ways:

Dilute with a carrier oil and place on your feet

Put in a tub of water and soak your feet in

Put a boiling pot of water on the stove and put a few drops of oil in.

Make scented playdough

Remember that Jesus wants us to give our best.

Last Supper/Washing the disciples' feet (Day 5)

Read the story of the Last Supper and the Washing of the disciples feet

or

Watch These two videos:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SigoALSSiR8>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bv5ajWNrnt4>

there should be 13 clothes pins in your bag- on each clothes pin write the name of each disciple and Jesus

Disciples: Simon (whom he named **Peter**), his brother **Andrew**, James, John, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James son of Alphaeus, **Simon** who was called the Zealot, Judas son of James, and Judas Iscariot,

using your egg crate color, the top part of the 12-carton brown and then flip it over and color the inside blue (to signify water)

use the top part of the egg carton to tell the story of the last supper.

Flip over the carton to tell the story of the foot washing (remove Judas because he left after the supper)

Remember that Jesus wants us to love one another

Good Friday (Day 6)

“The soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head. They clothed him in a purple robe”

John 19:2

Jesus had to do a very very sad thing when he came to this earth- he had to die

Jesus' death on the cross was an extremely sad thing because the soldiers were very mean to Jesus, they hurt him very badly.

One of the things they did was twist together a crown made of thorns, they did this because they were making fun of Jesus because Jesus said he was the king of the Jews.

It was a sad day when Jesus died but we remember the happy day came three days later when Jesus came back from the dead.

We also remember that even though Jesus' death is very very sad it is a happy thing for you and me. Jesus died to take our punishment for our sins.

Everyone of us sins, we all do things we should not do. We do not have to do anything special to get into heaven, all we need to do is believe that Jesus died for us, ask that Jesus would forgive us for our sins and accept Jesus into our hearts as our Savior.

For today's activity roll two strands of playdough and twist them together then press down the ends making a circular shape. Place the toothpicks in the playdough representing the thorns.

Remember Jesus died to take our punishment

Holy Saturday (Day 7)

But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.

Isaiah 53:5

On Easter we celebrate that Jesus loves us so much that he came to the earth to die to take our punishment. We celebrate that Jesus conquered death—he did not stay dead but he rose from the grave three days later!

Today we are going to make a cross craft that reminds us what Jesus did for us on the cross.

Paint over the canvas- make sure you paint all the white parts
(you can use any paint you have at home; watercolors work great and regular paint works too)
Let the paint dry and then peel it off.

Remember: Jesus died for us

Easter Sunday (Day 8)

“He himself bore our sins” in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; “by his wounds you have been healed.”

1 Peter 2:24

Pour a cup of salt onto a baking tray (a cake pan or something with deep sides will prevent you from getting too messy)

Sprinkle some pepper in and mix it up with the salt.

Blow up your balloon and create static electricity (I had to rub it on my head to get good static electricity so if you have someone with a lot of hair this is a good job for them!)

The static electricity from the balloon will pick up the pepper

The pepper represents sin—talk about how Jesus takes away our sin