

Triumphal Entry Matthew 21:1-11

Jesus and his disciples travelled to the city of Jerusalem. As they travelled they saw lots and lots of people. It seemed like everyone wanted to go to Jerusalem. All of the Jews wanted to go there for the special Passover celebrations.

When Jesus and his friends came to a village just outside of Jerusalem, Jesus stopped to talk to them. He asked two of the disciples to do a special job.

“Go into the village,” Jesus instructed, “and you will see a donkey and its colt.” (A colt is a young donkey). “Bring them to me. If anyone says anything or tries to stop you then just say: ‘the Lord needs it’. When you say that no one will try to stop you.”

The two disciples went into the village and guess what they saw? There were a donkey and its colt just as Jesus said. They untied the donkeys and began to walk away. Some people were standing nearby and they called out, “Hey, what are you doing with that colt?”

The disciples said just what Jesus said to say, “The Lord needs them.” When they said that the people let them go. It was just like Jesus said it would be.

When the disciples arrived back to the place where Jesus was they put their cloaks on top of the colt and Jesus began to ride into Jerusalem. This was very important because many years ago one of the prophets said that the king would come riding on a donkey.

Many people had heard about Jesus. They knew he had taught great things and that he had performed many miracles. He had made sick people well and made blind people see again. He even made a dead person come back to life.

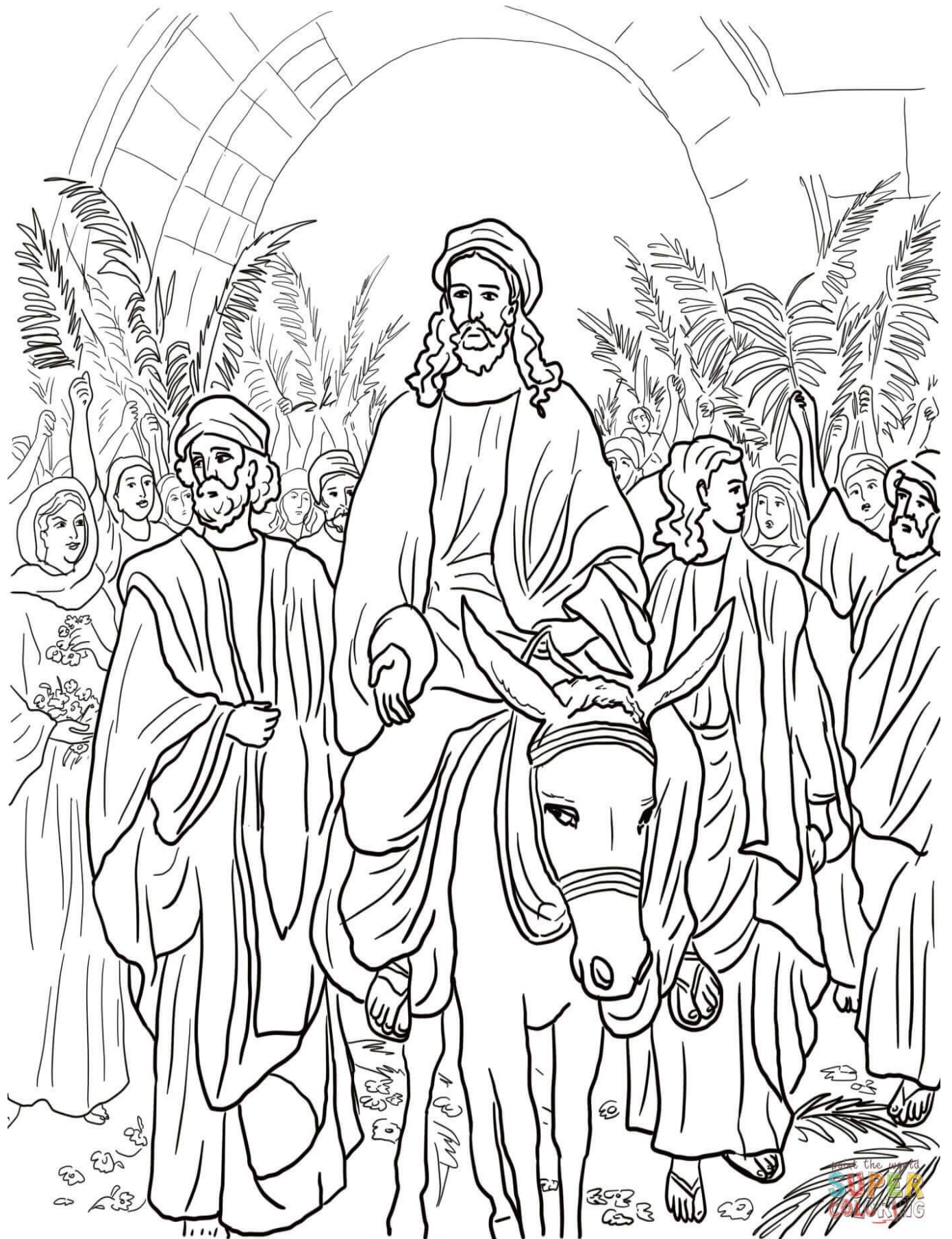
The people began to do things like they do when a king rides in a parade. They shouted praises to Jesus as he passed by. They said very good things about him and shouted out how good he was. They shouted “Hosanna to the son of David!” and “Blessed is the King!”

Some of the people threw down their cloaks so that the feet of Jesus’ donkey didn’t even have to touch the dirty road. Some of the people picked up palm branches and waved them. They waved the branches and continued to shout praises. They treated Jesus like a king. People were shouting and smiling. It was like a big parade. Everyone was so happy.

What do you think you would have done if you had been there? Do you think you would wave the branches and shout good things to Jesus? What good things would you say about Jesus?

Psalm 106:1 is a good verse to help us remember to say good things to God and to Jesus.

“Praise the Lord. Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever.”



Paper Bag Donkey Craft

Contributed by Leanne Guenther



Materials:

You can either make a grey donkey or a brown donkey

- a paper lunch bag
- for Grey Donkey: grey construction paper or grey poster paint
- a printer,
- some crayons,
- scissors,
- glue,
- paper for the printer

Optional:

- big [wiggly eyes](#)

Get Familiar with Your Paper Bag:

- I'm going to walk through this slowly. Look at your paper bag.
- It should be closed and flat like a piece of paper. Just like when they are brand new.
- On one side, it's all smooth. This will be the **BACK** of your puppet
 - It's important that all the kids get the back and front straight at the beginning!
- On the other side there's a flippy tab (which is typically the bottom of the bag when you're carrying your lunch around...)

- This flippy tab will be the **HEAD**
- Lift the flippy tab up a bit. Underneath of the tab will be the mouth,
 - When the child puts her hand in the bag, she'll be able to make the donkey talk.
- Look at the rest of the front of the bag. (The 3/4 or so of the bag below the part with the flippy tab) This will be the **BODY**.
- Look at the sides of the bag. There should be a **FLAP** of paper.
 - We'll be slipping the arms (template 2) into this flap.
 - If the kids goof and glue the arms onto the front or back of the bag, it isn't a big deal.
- OK, now that we're comfy with our bags, let's craft!

Template #1

- Brown Donkey: just use the brown paper bag
- Glue the small circle with the tongue underneath the flippy tab so you can see part of the circle sticking out from under the nose.
- Glue the nose onto the **HEAD**. It should overlap the body a bit.
- Glue the eyes onto the **HEAD** above the nose. If you like, you can use [wiggly eyes](#) instead of the paper template pieces.
- Glue the ears onto the **HEAD**.
- Glue the hair tuft onto the **HEAD**.

Template #2

- Glue the arms into the **FLAP**.
- Glue the tail onto the **BACK** (or you could use wool instead of the template piece)

PAUL'S SHIPWRECK



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