

Katie



The Sunday  
School Lady



## BIG STORIES OF THE BIBLE 45

### HOLY WEEK

**Scripture:** Various passages

**Open:** Greet, Praises, Requests, Pray

**Supplies:** Toilet paper rolls, green streamers, fake coins, table, stuffed birds, rope, fake donkey or horse (we used a stuffed unicorn), crown of thorns, bowl of water, towel, bread, cup, cross

#### Ask/Explain:

- Does anyone remember what miracles we talked about last week? (Jesus calming the storm, Jesus driving out a demon, Jesus healing a paralyzed man and forgiving his sins.
- Today, we're going to witness and take part in the final week before Jesus died.
- Some people call this week Holy Week. Much of the gospel of John takes place during this week.
- Background: Jesus did incredible miracles and taught with authority, so you may be wondering after this lesson why people would be trying to kill him. Well, the religious leaders were jealous of his following. They also refused to recognize that he was who he said he was: the Messiah sent from God to save them. Because of this, they tried to kill him. His death and resurrection are what we celebrate on Easter, but today we want to talk about the events leading up to that.

The way this lesson is set up is for the kids to "walk" through Holy Week. In our classroom, I had stations set up in a circle for us to walk through the week. At each station, I read through a passage of what occurred, while someone acted it out. I had a male volunteer with me, so he played Jesus, and the kids were able to see it unfold while we read the stories. It seems simple, but it is still a lesson my students remember and bring up.

**Station #1:** Jesus Enters on a Donkey (Palm Sunday)

**Read John 12:12-19**

We lined our hall with green streamers attached to toilet paper rolls for our palm branches. The kids shouted hosanna while our man playing Jesus rode through on a large purple unicorn that represented our donkey.

**Station #2:** Jesus Clears the Temple

**Read John 2:13-22**

We have a table set up with stuffed birds in cages (wire trash cans), and a person dressed up in a sheep costume (my church used to be big in plays and had various costumes available), Coins were laid on the table and our Jesus took a rope, pretended to use it like a whip, released the birds, and flipped the table. Our kids were pretty shocked.

**Station #3:** Jesus Washes the Disciples Feet

**Read John 13:1-11**

We had a kid take on the role of Peter and had our person playing Jesus wash his feet with a bowl and a towel.

**Station #4:** The Last Supper

**Read Mark 14:22-26**

Have the person playing Jesus reenact breaking the bread and drinking the cup.

**Station #5:** Jesus Prays in the Garden

**Read Mark 14:32-42**

We had other kids take on the role of the sleeping disciples, with Jesus and them acting it out.

**Station #6:** Jesus before Pilate

**Read Mark 15:1-15**

We had a person play Pilate and Barrabas. The kids shouted crucify. This was meaningful to many as they saw the hatred directed at Jesus. We then had Pilate wash his hands.

**Station #7:** Soldiers mock Jesus

**Read Mark 15:16-20**

The kids placed a crown of thorns on the person playing Jesus and then pushed him around (gently)

**Station #8:** Jesus is crucified

**Read John 19:17-21**

The one who played Jesus carried a wooden cross, then held his arms out as if being crucified. We also had two others next to him mocking him, but one asked forgiveness (Luke 23:39-43)

**Station #9:** The Burial and Resurrection

**Read Luke 23:50-54, Matthew 28:1-10**

Our Jesus actor laid down and we had a few kids in angel costumes. They reenacted the scene with the guards and the women.

**Ask:**

What do you think about all that? That's a lot to have happened in a week.

What did you feel as you witnessed it?

How do you think it would have felt as one of Jesus' disciples to go through all this not knowing the resurrection was coming?

**Comic Book Bibles:**

Have the kids color the events of Holy Week in their comic book Bibles.

**Memorize:** Mark 4:41

**Close in Prayer**



These were our palm branches. Just a toilet paper roll and tissue paper/streamers.