



PRESCHOOL EASTER

Young Reader's Bible: A King of a Different Kingdom and Could it be True?

Supplies: Premade crown of thorns, paper plates, popsicle sticks, markers/crayons

Main Point to Drive Home: Jesus died to save us from our sins and rose again on the third day.

Open: Greet each child by name and play for three-five minutes

Song: (Optional) Sing a song from the boom box. If the kids are interested, create motions and invite them to dance and sing along.

Story Time:

Take the bigger kids into the story room (leaving the door open and using the gate). Have them choose a carpet square to sit on for the story.

Explain: Last week, we talked about how Jesus came to Jerusalem. Does anyone remember what he rode on? (A donkey). Does anyone remember what people waved? (Palm branches) > Well, in our stories today, Jesus dies on a cross. You see, Jesus wanted to save us from our sins. Does anyone know what sin is? (It's when we do something wrong). Because we all have sinned, we need to be forgiven, and the only way for us to be forgiven is if there is a perfect sacrifice in our place. Jesus is that sacrifice and we'll learn what happened today.

Read the story "King of a Different Kingdom" and "Could it be true?" During the "King of a Different Kingdom," show kids the crown of thorns and let them feel it.

Explain:

Jesus died so that we could be forgiven, but he isn't still dead! He rose from the dead! He is alive and in heaven! Someday, all who believe in him will see him and live with him forever! If you want to ask him to forgive you of your sins, you can. Does anyone know how to do that? (We can start with praying).. Pray with the kids if they show interest and be sure to tell their families.

Craft:

Today, we're going to make a cave. This will remind us of the tomb where Jesus was buried. But we'll have a stone on a popsicle stick so that we can roll the stone away because Jesus isn't still dead, he is alive!

With a paper plate cut in half, cut out a semicircle. Color the plate and rocks at the end of the lesson gray. Then, glue the rocks to a popsicle stick and have them roll the stone away and say, "He is risen!"

Allow Free Play for the rest of the time.

Crown of Thorns:

To make a crown of thorns, use three long and skinny strips of paper. Parchment paper or butcher paper works well. Twist each strip of paper and then twist all three strips together. Glue it into a circle. Once dried, stick toothpicks throughout the paper to resemble a crown of thorns for the kids to see and touch.



