

*Get Ready!*

## Hosanna!

By: Myra Montgomery



### Text

Matthew 21:1-9

### Key Quest Verse

“He died for us” (1 Thessalonians 5:10).

### Bible Background

We were powerless. We were born into a world of sin – a people destined to die because of sin that started with the very first man, Adam. Our loving God recognized our situation. In fact, He knew this was going to happen before we were created, and He developed an amazing plan that would demonstrate His great love for us. He gave us His very own Son to die in our place. We are no longer powerless. God was willing to save us through the sacrifice of His own son when we were at our worst – basically His enemies. Now that we have been brought back to Him through His Son, He can do so much more for us by delivering us daily from the power of sin in our lives through the resurrected Christ.

What a reason to rejoice! We have a new relationship with our God. We are freed from the curse of sin and delivered from the power of sin. All this is ours, because Jesus was willing to die in our place.

*Get Ready!***Lesson Quest**

**What I want my students to:**

**Know:** Jesus died for us.

**Feel:** Jesus loves us very much.

**Do:** To respond by praising Jesus and singing happy songs as the children did long ago.

**Leader's Devotion**

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# Get Set!



## Option A

**Materials:** Real palm branch

**Story tie:** Does anyone know what this is and where it comes from? (Palm branch from a palm tree). Today we're going to learn about a time in the Bible when these palm branches were used to celebrate a special time.

GO TO THE BIBLE STORY

## Option B

**Materials:** Rhythm band instruments

When I go to a special celebration there is often music there. Music is one way that we show Jesus we love Him; I am going to give you each an instrument to play. Let's sing Jesus loves me and play our instruments together. Play instrument and sing "Jesus Loves Me" changing the second verse to "I Love Jesus."

In our Bible Story today we are going learn about another way people showed Jesus they loved Him.

GO TO THE BIBLE STORY



**Get Set!****Bible Story**

**Teacher Tip:** Provide markers for students to highlight portions of the story in their Bibles

Today is a special Sunday at church, because of something that happened long ago when Jesus lived on earth. Today is Palm Sunday. Let's listen and find out why.

It was time for a special holiday in Jerusalem. Many people were going. Jesus was going with His friends, too. When they came close to Jerusalem, Jesus sent two of His helpers on an errand. Jesus had a special job for them to do. He said, "Go over to the next town. You will find a young donkey there. If the man that owns him asks why you are taking him, tell him the Lord needs him, and he will let you take the donkey."

Jesus' friends did just what Jesus had asked them to do. They found the donkey. The donkey had no saddle, because no one had ever ridden on him. The men put their coats on the donkey, so Jesus would have a soft place to sit.

Jesus rode along the way to Jerusalem. There was a crowd on the road as they got near the city. When the people saw Jesus, they began to shout and sing praises to Him. They loved Jesus and knew He loved them. Jesus had done many wonderful things for them. He had made sick people well, He had helped blind people see again and He had even taken time to see the little children. The people laid their coats in the road to make a path for Him. Some people cut off branches from the trees to wave back and forth like flags. Some branches they put with the coats to make a soft path down the road. These are all things the people did in those days to welcome a king. This was such a happy day that the children threw their coats down, too, and put flowers on the path for Jesus. The people wanted Jesus to be their king. They shouted, "Hosanna! Hosanna!"

The people happily followed Jesus all the way to the temple in Jerusalem. Jesus helped many sick people on the way, and in the temple the children kept singing their happy song. Some of the people did not love Jesus. They wanted all the happy singing to stop. But, Jesus was very happy. He told the men the children were praising God. We call this day Palm Sunday, because we remember the day Jesus rode into Jerusalem and people took branches from the palm trees to lay in His path.

We love Jesus, too, and we know that it pleases Him when we sing our happy songs of praise.

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Get Set!



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**Bible Story**

**Teachers Note:** The second time this lesson is taught add the following to the end of the above story to prepare your students for Resurrection Sunday.

**Remember, not everyone loved Jesus. There were some men who hated Jesus very much. When these men heard the children singing their praises, this just made them angrier and angrier. They soon had Jesus arrested.**

**They beat Him, they took His clothes away and they spit on Him. Soon it was decided that Jesus must die on a cross. Jesus had to carry His heavy cross up a hill to die. Jesus' friends were very sad the day this happened, but wait, this is not the end of our story. Something very exciting is about to happen.**

**Go!****Springtime Treats****FOOD**

**Materials:** Sugar cookie dough, frosting, small plastic knives, sprinkles, Ziploc bags, moist towels for clean-up

**Quest Connection**

Today we are going to make a special treat. I made for you a special cookie. Tell me what shape these cookies are? That's right, a cross. We see a lot of crosses at Easter. Who died on the cross? Jesus did. He died for our sins. When someone I love dies or a pet of mine dies, I am very sad. Have you ever been sad? Jesus' friends were sad when He died on the cross. But, then they were very happy. Do you know why? Remember what the angels told Mary? He is not here. He is risen. Jesus was alive again. When Jesus comes back to earth, the people who have died will be alive again. We will all be so happy.

**Procedure:** Ahead of time, roll cookie dough and cut out cross-shaped cookies. Bake according to recipe.

**Close**

Let us pray and thank God for giving us His son Jesus!

**Go!****Palm Branches****ARTS AND CRAFTS**

**Materials:** Make a copy of Teacher Resource page, “Palm Branches” for each student, pair of scissors per student, crayons or markers

**Quest Connection**

**Who remembers what the people were shouting as Jesus came through the city?** (Hosanna.) **Who remembers what they were waving?** (Palm branches.) **What did they lay on the ground as Jesus went by?** (Their coats.) **We are going to make palm branches.** (Explain to them the procedure.)

**Procedure:** According to the child’s ability, have them cut or cut for them, the palm branch from the Resource Page. Let the child color the page, and then cut on the lines of the palm branch to fringe it.

**Close**

**When we come to church, we sing praises to Jesus and God. What is one of your favorite songs we sing at church? Let’s sing it together!**

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**Go!**

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**Riding The Donkey**

MUSIC

Materials: None

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**Quest Connection**

**What did Jesus ride on when He came into the city? (Donkey.) What did the people shout? (Hosanna.) We are going to learn a song and then act it out!**

**Procedure:** Children line up as for “London Bridge.” They pass through the “gate to Jerusalem” as they sing these words to the tune.

**Riding to Jerusalem  
Through the gate, through the gate.  
Riding to Jerusalem  
On a donkey!**

**Wave a branch  
Shout Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna  
Wave a branch joyfully  
at King Jesus!**

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**Close**

**Wouldn't it be exciting to have been in the crowd watching Jesus riding the donkey? Someday we are going to see Jesus again, but this time He will be riding on clouds!**

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**Go!**

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**Bookmarks****ARTS AND CRAFTS**

**Materials:** Cross pattern from the teacher Resource Page, various springtime stickers, poster board, yarn (optional), marker and hole punch

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**Quest Connection**

**Who knows where all the stories that we are learning about come from?** (The Bible.) **We are going to make a bookmark to use in our Bibles.** Hold up cross shape. **Who knows what this shape is?** (Cross.) **Who can tell me who died on a cross?** (Jesus.)

**Procedure:** Trace and cut around the cross pattern onto the poster board for each child. Write “Jesus died for us” on the cross. Let each child decorate their cross with spring stickers. Help the children find today’s story in their Bibles and use the bookmark to mark it

**Option:** Punch a hole in the top of the cross. Cut a piece of yarn to go around the neck as a necklace. Help children thread yarn through hole and tie ends

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**Close**

Let us find the story about Jesus and mark it with our bookmarks in our Bibles.

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**Go!**

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**Potato Donkey****FOOD**

**Materials:** Black or brown marker, black or brown yarn, craft sticks, small pieces of fabric, two potatoes (one medium and one small), glue and scissors

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**Quest Connection**

**How did you and your family come to church today? Did you fly on an airplane? Did you ride in a boat? Did you ride on a motorcycle? Did you drive a tractor?** Allow students to give you their responses. **Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey. The people were so excited to see Him. Remember what they waved in the air? What did they lay down for Him to walk on?** Allow students to give their responses.

**Procedure:** Poke four craft sticks into the large potato for legs. Poke two craft sticks through the small potato for ears on the top and a neck on the bottom. Poke the neck sticks into the large potato. Add eyes and a smile with a marker. Cut small pieces of yarn and glue them on the potatoes for a mane and tail. When the glue has dried drape the small pieces of material over the back of the donkey.

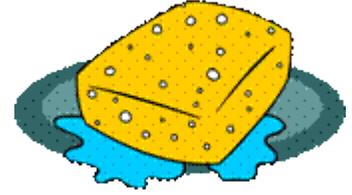
**Option:** Gray clay can be substituted for the potatoes

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**Close**

Close class with prayer.

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**Go!**

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**Sponge Print Cross****ARTS AND CRAFTS**

**Materials:** Sponges cut into cross shapes, paper plates, paper, newspaper, paint

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**Quest Connection**

**Procedure:** Cover the work area with newspaper. Press the sponge into paint on the paper plate, then press the sponge onto the paper several times.

**What does the cross shape make us think about?** (When Jesus dies on the cross.)

**Why did Jesus die on the cross?** (Because there were some people who didn't believe Him; He died for our sins.)

**Did Jesus stay dead?** (No, three days later He came alive.)

**Where is Jesus now?** (He is with God in heaven.)

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**Close**

**Every time that you see a cross, I want you to think about how much God loves us! He loves us so much that He had His Son, Jesus, die on the cross for our sins!**

**Go!****Clothespin Donkey****DRAMA/ARTS AND CRAFTS**

**Materials:** Pattern from Teacher Resource “Clothespin Donkey,” two spring-type clothespins per student, paints, crayons or marker, white poster board, brown or black construction paper, glue, scissors

**Quest Connection**

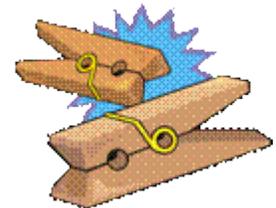
**How happy everyone was when they saw Jesus ride through the city! We are going to make a donkey to help us remember how Jesus makes everyone happy, because He loves us so much!**

**Procedure:** Using the donkey pattern, trace and cut out a donkey body for each student. Have students color both sides of the donkey’s body. Encourage them to add an eye on each side. Demonstrate to students how to fringe the paper for the mane and tail. Glue the mane and tail to the donkey body. Add the clothespins to the donkey for the legs

**Option:** Sponge painting the body adds a nice effect

**Close**

**Let’s stand our donkeys up, so they look like they are walking. Let’s pretend our donkey is the one that Jesus rode into the city that day! Don’t you think that donkey would be proud to carry Jesus?**



**Go!****Bubble Praise****GAME**

**Materials:** Jar of bubbles

**Quest Connection**

God and Jesus always deserve a round of thanks for all the wonderful things They do for us. Think of some ways that we can thank Them. During this game, you're going to give a little worship clap and shout. Let's think of a worship phrase that we can shout during our game. The children can make up their own or you can teach them a phrase to repeat as they clap out each word.

Examples:

God is Awesome

We love You Jesus!

Thank You for dying for us, Jesus!

Praise God for everything!

**Procedure:** Blow bubbles for the students to pop. Have the students burst the bubbles by giving great big claps. While giving big claps shout out words of praise or thanks.

**Close**

Worshiping God is telling Him how much you love Him. There are all kinds of ways to show God that you love Him. Some people worship God quietly and some worship God loudly! What's your favorite way to worship God?



**Go!****Mosaic Cross****ARTS AND CRAFTS**

**Materials:** Teacher Resource “He Died For Us,” lightweight cardboard cut in the shape of a cross, a variety of colors of tissue paper or construction paper, glue sticks

**Quest Connection**

**How did Jesus die?** (Nailed to a cross.) **We are going to make colorful crosses to help us remember what a wonderful thing that Jesus did for us!**

**Procedure:** Cut apart the strips with the memory verse from the Teacher Resource page. Students will tear up colored paper into small pieces. Then they will glue the pieces on the cross shaped cardboard with the glue stick. Give them the strips of paper with their memory verse on it and have them glue it to their mosaic crosses.

**Teacher Tip:** This activity could be done by making one large bulletin board-sized cross for all of the students to work on together.

**Close**

Prayer: **Dear God, thank You for Your son, Jesus! Amen.**

**Go!****Palm Branches****ARTS AND CRAFTS**

**Materials:** Green construction paper, one empty bathroom tissue cardboard tube per student, felt marker, scissors

**Quest Connection**

**Who remembers what the people were waving as Jesus rode into the city? (Palm branches.) What were they saying? (Hosanna!) We are going to make our own palm branches!**

**Procedure:** Help students trace around their hands and down their wrist three times on the construction paper. Let them cut the three “palms” out. Do not worry if they can’t cut exactly on the lines. Tape the palms to the cardboard tubes. Write the word “Hosanna!” on the tube.

**Close**

**Let’s line up with our palm branches. Let us pretend that our friend (choose a child) is Jesus as He goes by. Let’s wave our palm branches at Him and yell “Hosanna!”** Let each child, including girls, have a chance to play the part of Jesus!

Resource Page—  
Clothespin Donkey

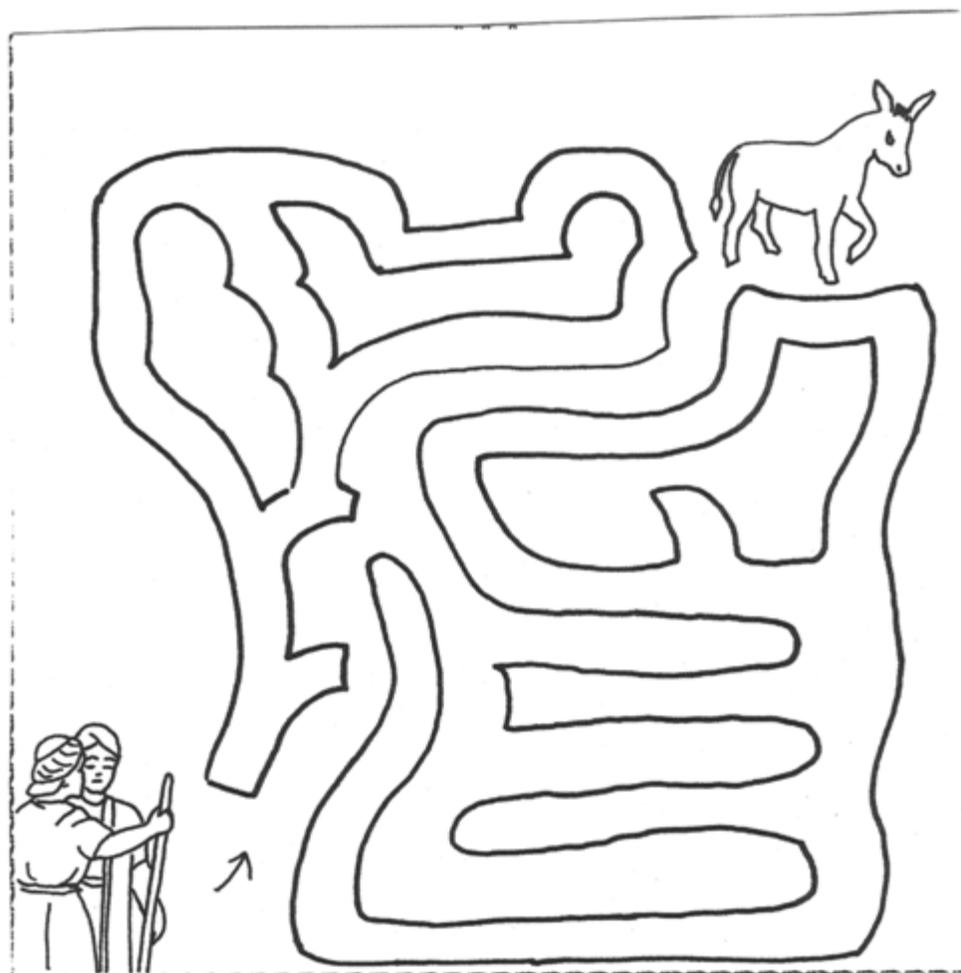


Resource Page— “He  
Died For Us”

“He died for us” (1 Thessalonians 5:10).

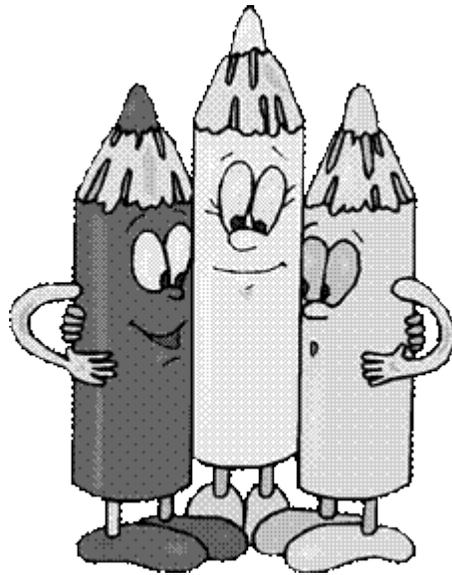
## Worksheet—Maze

Can you take a crayon and find the way for the men to get to the little donkey?



# Journal Page

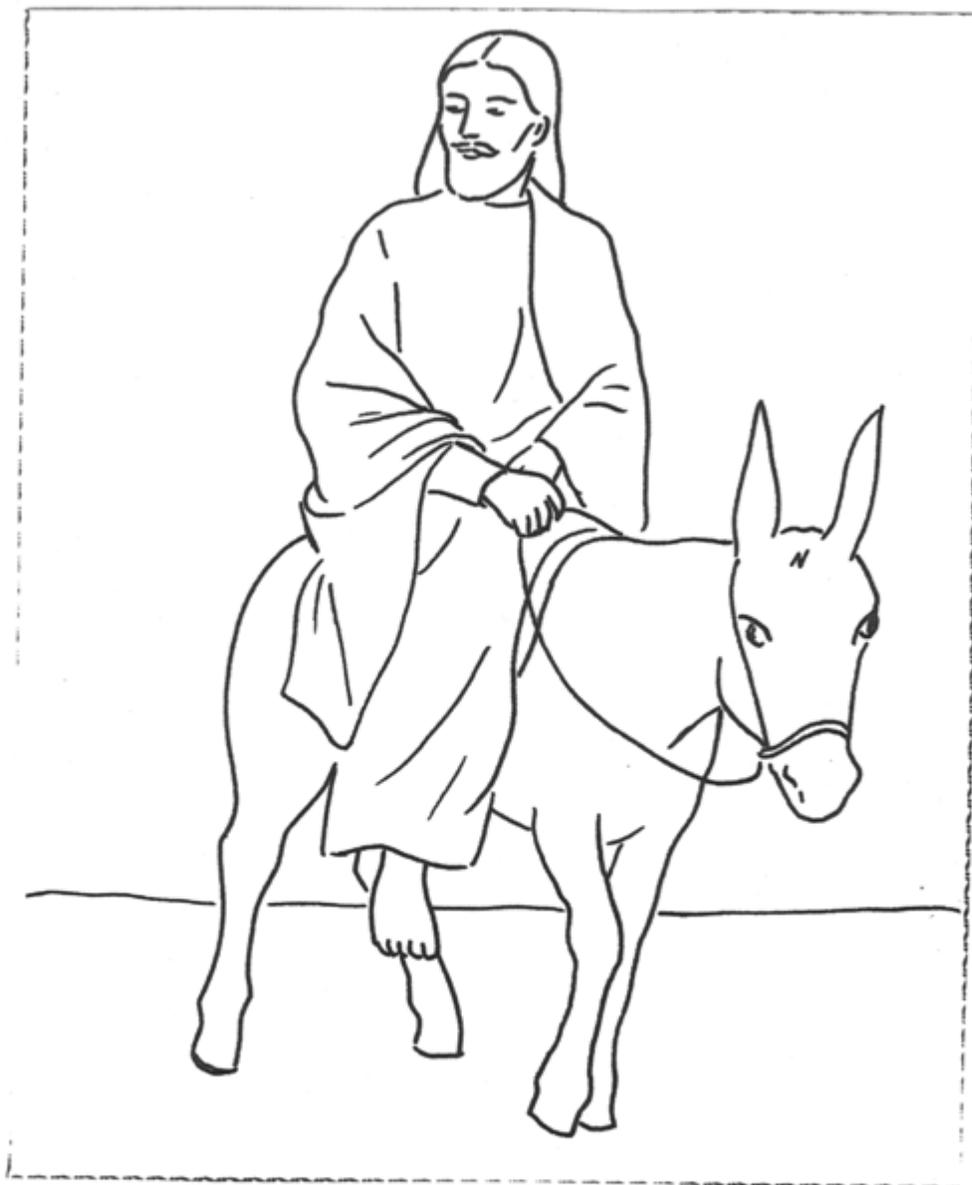
Draw a picture of yourself praising Jesus! Use a crayon of the color that shows how you would feel.



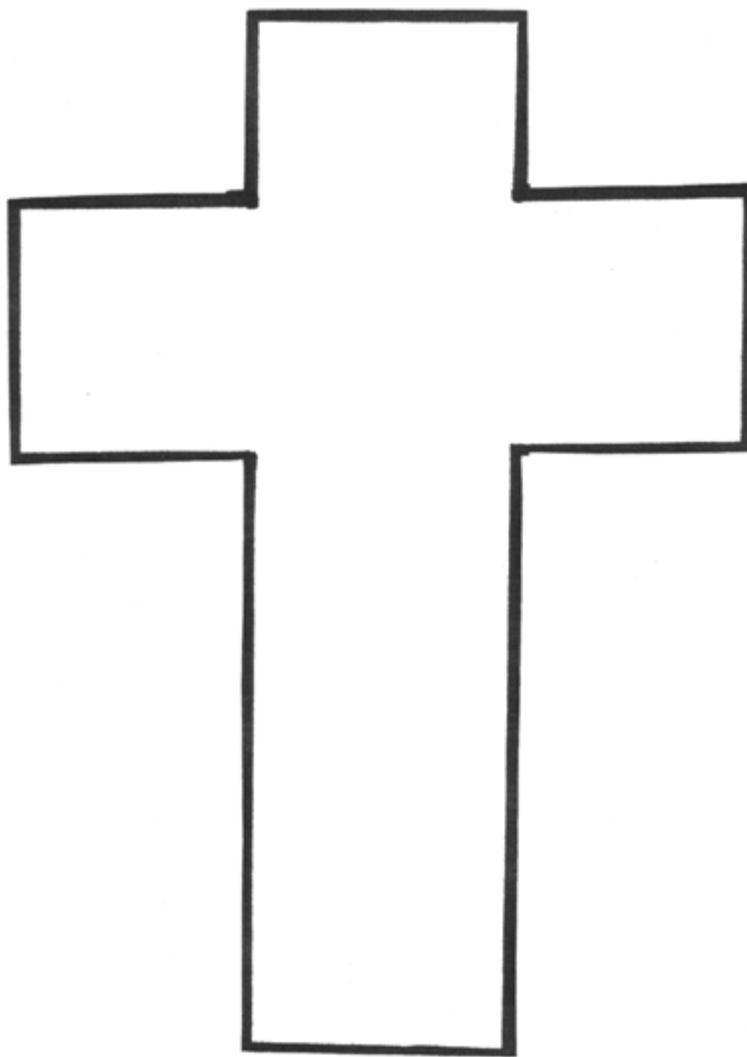
"He died for us" (1 Thessalonians 5:10).

## Worksheet—Jesus Riding on the Donkey

Can you draw branches and flowers and clothes on the road for the donkey to walk on?



**Resource Page—  
Bookmarks**



Resource Page—Palm  
Branch

