How to use these materials and corresponding videos:

1. Description of material included in this PDF:
   a. Scripture reference – These are the passages that Hillsong used to create this lesson
   b. Big Word - The memory verse below is what we are learning for this section. You can read this with your child and practice it throughout the week.
   c. Intro to the Lesson – This is a reading that helps introduce the BIG message and BIG Story points for this lesson
   d. Storytelling
   e. Summary – This explains the main point of the video BIG message and BIG story
   f. BIG questions & Prayer - These are questions that you can ask your children and use the information below for further discussion, and you can use the prayer provided.
   g. Coloring page & Activities – Attached to this PDF are the corresponding coloring page for this lesson and playtime learning activities that you can do with your child(ren) throughout the week.

2. We have uploaded the videos that go along with this lesson to our REUNIONkids Facebook page (these videos also include the videos that are a part of our Sunday kids gathering)
   - BIG Message Live - The Hillsong team presents the lesson
   - Big Message – The team at the BIG HQ present life-application lessons for children
   - Big Story – The story told using visual art
   - Big Quiz – Reinforcing the BIG Idea through an interactive question & answer time
   - Theme song – A silly song to help remember the BIG idea & points
   - BIG word - Bible memory verse segments for each BIG PICTURE, through song and dance to assist in remembering scripture
BIG PICTURE: Celebrate Easter
BIG IDEA: Palm Sunday
BIG POINT: Hosanna! King Jesus is worthy to be praised

LEARNING OUTCOMES:
- Learn the story of Jesus’ entry into Jerusalem.
- Know that Jesus is the King of Kings and worthy to be praised.
- Discover the events that led up to Jesus’ death and resurrection.

Scripture References:
Zechariah 9:9
Isaiah 9:6
Matthew 21:1-11
Philippians 2:9-11
1 Timothy 6

THE BIG WORD
“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.” John 3:16 (NIV)

INTRO – Showing Honor

When people meet Royalty, it’s customary to bow or curtsey. Let’s stand and do our best bow or curtsey as if we’re meeting a king or queen.

In the military, soldiers show their respect and honor to their commanding officers or their country’s flag by saluting. They stand tall, raise their right hand, keeping it straight with their fingers together and touch it to the edge of their eyebrow. Can you show me your salute?

The people of Jerusalem showed honor to Jesus by placing their garments along the path where He rode the donkey. They showed honor as they waved palm branches to praise their King.

How do we show honor today?
We stand when someone important enters a room. We clap and stand to our feet at the end of a show or concert. We celebrate a winning team with a big trophy, a parade and confetti.

How do we show honor to Jesus?

We can show honor to Jesus by praising Him. We lift our hands in worship and honor Him as the King of our lives. We can also honor Jesus by praying and spending time with Him. We can tell Him what He means to us and thank Him for who He is and what He’s done in our lives. Jesus is the King of kings and His name is above every other name. Philippians 2:9-11 (NIV) “Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” HOSANNA! King Jesus is worthy to be praised.

STORYTELLING - STRAIGHT FROM THE DONKEY’S MOUTH

Parents: Share this story about Jesus arriving to Jerusalem on a donkey, which we now know as Palm Sunday. The story is told from the perspective of the donkey.

I was just going about my business, eating hay, you know, because it’s awesome, when this totally random guy came up to my owner and pointed to me saying, “The master has need of him.” So my owner, who has generally been good to me, put a rope around my neck and handed me over to the strangers. The strangers patted me on the head and said, “You’ve got a really important job today.” I felt pretty special to be chosen to do an important job and held my head up high and walked taller. I even felt more like a horse, than a lowly donkey. Hee-haw.

After a short walk, the two strangers introduced me to their friend. Their friend placed his hands on my cheeks. His hands were warm and His smile made me feel safe and a little bit cozy. Next, He placed a cloth on my back, sat on me and His two friends led me by the rope down a path. I wondered where we were going. Hee-haw.

It was a busy time of year. The Passover festival had started and there were lots of people about, but I didn’t expect them all out on the streets. They made a lot of noise. It was a bit strange at first and my legs felt a bit wobbly, because I was a little scared. But the man that was sitting on my back stroked my neck and said, “It’s okay, it’s as it was written.” I didn’t know what He meant, but I felt comforted by His touch.
As we got further into the crowd, some of them took off their coats and laid them in front of me to walk over. I’d never seen anything like this before, but I knew it was a sign of great respect. Other people cut off big palm tree leaves and waved the about shouting, “Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest!” And others shouted, “Blessed is the one who comes in the Name of the Lord! The King of Israel!”

I didn’t know that I was carrying a king on my back. He may not have looked like a king, He didn’t have purple robes and a crown, but I could see that He was special and the crowds thought that too. Hee-haw.

When we got through the excitement of the crowds it was time for me to be taken back to my owner. The man looked me in the eyes and said, “Fair one, you have today fulfilled ancient prophecy and this fulfillment will go down in the books of history. For today, a King and Savior rode on your back.” Hee-haw.

Summary

Have you noticed how excited people get when they see a celebrity? When a famous person steps out of their shiny car, the flash of photographers goes crazy and people cheer and scream and jump up and down. Everyone tries to get the celebrities’ attention so they can take a selfie with them.

Jesus has been described as the Prince of Peace in Isaiah 9:6 and the King of Kings in 1 Timothy 6; and when he arrived at Jerusalem His “triumphal entry” was very different to a celebrity in a limousine.

Jesus didn’t arrive to the town of Jerusalem in a shiny chariot with a security team. Word about Jesus had spread, He was the man who had healed people from sickness, performed powerful miracles and even brought dead people to life. The crowds of everyday people gathered to see Him. He wasn’t arriving to a royal place but He was honored by people who gathered. Jesus is the King of a different king of Kingdom; the kingdom of God, a spiritual kingdom. His rule was prophesied about hundreds of years before and continues to this very day.
THE BIG QUESTION

1. What animal did Jesus ride as He entered Jerusalem?
A donkey! Usually a king would ride a horse into town after a victorious battle. In times of peace a king would ride in on a donkey. Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey and He is the bringer of peace.

2. What did people wave as they worshipped Jesus?
The people waved palm branches and were praising Jesus singing “Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!” We can worship Jesus!

3. How can you praise King Jesus?
We can praise King Jesus when we sing and dance and worship Him. We can praise Him as we put Him first in our lives, read His word, pray and spend time with Him. We can praise God through living a life that honors Him.

PRAYER
Dear Jesus,
We worship You our Savior and King. Thank You that You have victory over sin and death. We praise You for who You are and what You have done for us. Help us to worship You with every part of our lives as we put You first in all we do.
Amen
COLORING PAGE & ACTIVITY

1. Coloring page

2. The Big Activity (craft)
   
   - **Supplies needed:** Palm leaf template printed for each child onto green card paper (or color it green), scissors, green drinking straws, tape.
   
   - **Directions:** Give your child a palm leaf template printed onto green card paper (or have them color it green). Help them to cut their palm leaf shape along the dotted lines. Next, they can use some tape to add a green straw as a stem for their palm leaf.
   
   - **Explanation:** HOSANNA! King Jesus is worthy to be praised. As the people cheered and praised God there were some religious people who were angry. They were mad when they saw the crowds worshipping Jesus. Luke 19:39 (NIV), “Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, “Teacher, rebuke your disciples!”
     
     Jesus said to them, “I tell you,” he replied, “if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out.”
     
     King Jesus is so worthy to be praised that, if people don’t worship Him, the rocks themselves will cry out in worship. We can worship Jesus!

3. Learning Activity
   
   - **Supplies Needed:** Palm leaf (either the one created during craft time, a piece of green paper, or a square of green fabric) and music.
   
   - Play some praise music as your child waves a palm leaf and dances. When the music stops, your child must sit down as quickly as he/she can. When the music starts again he/she can jump up and wave the palm leaf.
BIG IDEA  PALM SUNDAY
BIG POINT  HOSANNA! KING JESUS IS WORTHY TO BE PRAISED
BIG WORD  For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16 (NIV)