

JESUS WANTS TO BE
MY FRIEND FOREVER.

WEEK

ONE

APRIL 2020

LARGE GROUP
RUG

3-5

YEAR-OLDS



first look™

TEAM

CEO

Reggie Joiner

DIRECTOR OF MESSAGING

Kristen Ivy

DIRECTOR OF PRESCHOOL STRATEGY

Brittany Compton Robertson

DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM

Kathy Hill

DESIGN AND BRAND MANAGER

Sharon van Rossum

CREATIVE TEAM

Brittany Compton Robertson

Kathy Hill

Autumn Ward

Ashley Hiers

Donna High

Sharon van Rossum

Deb Springer

McKenzie Causey

Missy Purcell

WRITERS

Emily Meredith

Autumn Ward

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first look™
LARGE GROUP



WEEK
ONE
APRIL 2020

LARGE GROUP
RUG
3-5
YEAR-OLDS

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME



BIBLE STORY

We celebrate Jesus because
He is special.

PALM SUNDAY
MATTHEW 21:1-11, 15-16

MEMORY VERSE

"I am alive for ever and ever!"

REVELATION 1:18, NIV

KEY QUESTION

Who is alive?

BOTTOM LINE

Jesus is alive.

BASIC TRUTH

Jesus wants to be my
friend forever.

PRELUDE: Setting the tone for the experience

For Leaders Only
Monthly Overview
Create the Environment

15
MIN

SOCIAL: Providing time for fun interaction

Offer one or more of these activities as preschoolers arrive.
Palm Leaf Dancing
Walk the Path
Plush Friends Party

10
MIN

WORSHIP: Inviting people to respond to God

He's Alive Oh Yeah

10
MIN

STORY: Communicating God's truth in engaging ways

Introductory Sketch
Bible Story
Prayer

25
MIN

GROUPS: Creating a safe place to connect

Offer as many of these activities as your time, facilities, resources, and leadership allow.
Memory Verse with Motions
Jesus' Triumphal Entry
Cut It Out
Hosanna Dancing
Puppet Theater
Journal and Prayer

HOME: Prompting action beyond the experience

Going Home
Parent Cue



PRELUDE

SOCIAL

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HOME

10 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

BIBLE STORY

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Gather children for a Large Group time that includes interactive worship and the Bible story. The Rug Script is written for those who pull their children to a rug (or area) to one side of their preschool space to tell the Bible story. If you gather your preschoolers together from multiple rooms and have a larger space on which to present the Bible story, you may benefit from using the Stage Script.

WORSHIP

Use the full mix of the monthly song provided with the curriculum to lead your preschoolers in worship. Encourage children to be active during worship by incorporating the appropriate hand motions.

WHAT YOU NEED: Paperclip "Memory Verse Card" in your Bible at Revelation 1:18, NIV. You will need a music player and this month's worship song, "He's Alive Oh Yeah," which is included in your monthly files. The dance moves video for "He's Alive Oh Yeah" is available on the Orange Store or in your media package if you subscribe.

LEADER: "Hey, friends! It's time to worship. Stand up on your feet because I have the best news ever. **Jesus is alive!** When I say, '**Who is alive?**' you say, '**Jesus is alive.**' Let's try it. **Who is alive?**"

CHILDREN AND LEADER: "Jesus is alive."

LEADER: "Let's spin and dance and sing 'He's Alive Oh Yeah' together!

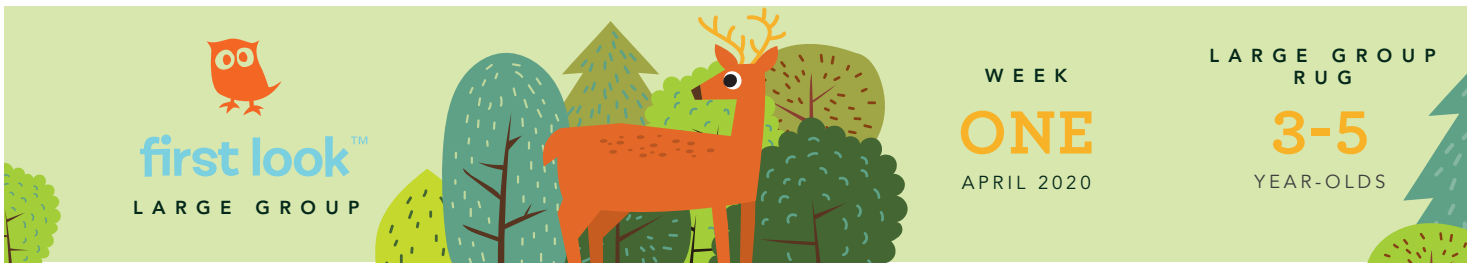
(Lead children in singing "He's Alive Oh Yeah," this month's worship song.)

"Jesus is bigger and stronger than anything ever. **Jesus is alive!** Our memory verse from the Bible this month says: "I am alive (*point both hands up*) for ever and ever!" (*Twirl around.*) Revelation 1:18. (*Open hands like a book.*) Can you say it with me?

(Say the verse and do the motions several times together.)

"Great job! **Jesus is alive** for ever and ever! **Who is alive?"**

CHILDREN AND LEADER: "Jesus is alive!"



PRELUDE

SOCIAL

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HOME

10 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

STORY

Choose an engaging adult to tell the Bible story. This person should be able to command the attention of preschoolers and control the group through animated storytelling. These scripts are written to be “told” and not “read.” Advanced preparation is necessary.

First Look offers weekly introductory sketches and Bible stories on the DVD titled “Wonder, Look at God’s Story.” This DVD is available for purchase at OrangeStore.org or as part of your monthly Media Package.

WHAT YOU NEED: A Bible and a large palm branch

(Optional: “Palm Leaf” Activity Page, cardstock, and scissors.)

(NOTE: If you do not use the palm leaf cutouts, the children will wave their hands in the air.)

Optional Story Images can be found in the Large Group Images folder. (02_LG35_Rug_Images) They can be used in conjunction with this script.

WHAT YOU DO:

BEFORE THE ACTIVITY: Make a copy of “Palm Leaf” on cardstock for each child. Pre-cut the palm leaves before Large Group.

DURING THE ACTIVITY: Hand a “Palm Leaf” to each child as they enter Large Group.

WHAT YOU SAY:

LEADER: “Hello, everybody! I’m [your name]! And this is my palm branch.

(Hold up a large palm branch and then notice that the children have palm branches, too.)

LEADER: “Wait a minute. Do you have palm branches, too? (Get excited.) If you have a palm branch, hold it up in the air and wave it so I can see it.

(Wave your branch while looking at the children waving their palm branches.)

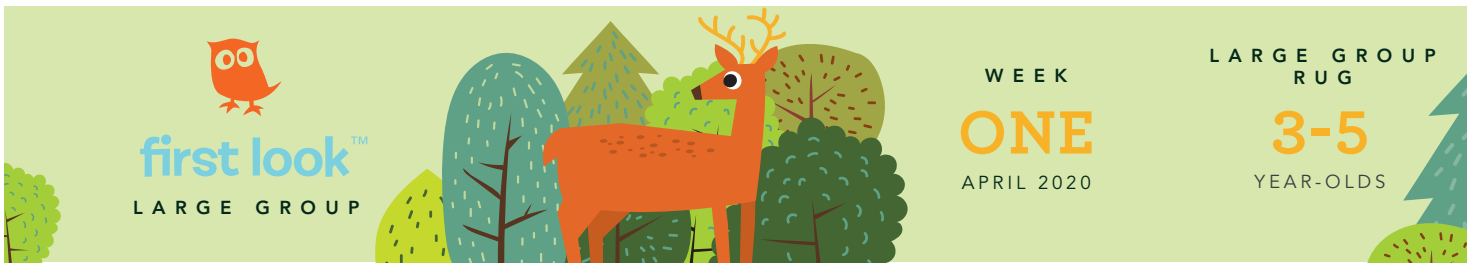
“Cool! You can use your palm branches to help me tell today’s Bible story. Put your palm branch in your lap for now, and I’ll tell you when to wave it.

“This is the Bible.

(Hold up the Bible, open it, and lay it aside.)

“Our story today comes from the Bible. It’s about a special day we call Palm Sunday.

“Palm Sunday started in a town called Jerusalem. But before it was Palm Sunday, it was like any other Sunday. The people in Jerusalem were all going about their normal day until someone said, ‘Hey! Jesus is coming!’



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10 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

(Option: Story Image W1 01)

"Well, that changed everything! They were so excited! The people had heard about Jesus and that He could do anything.

"They heard that Jesus could make a storm stop by just saying, 'Stop!'

"Wave your palm branches with me and say, 'Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus!'"

CHILDREN AND LEADER: "Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus!"

LEADER: "They heard that Jesus could make sick people all better.

"Wave your palm branches with me and say, 'Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus!'"

CHILDREN AND LEADER: "Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus!"

LEADER: "They heard that Jesus could feed A LOT of people with only a little bit of food.

"Wave your palm branches with me and say, 'Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus!'"

CHILDREN AND LEADER: "Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus!"

LEADER: "Jesus is so special! And if He was coming to town, then the people needed to do something special to celebrate Him.

(Option: Story Image W1 02)

"So guess what they did! *(Pause.)* The people cut palm branches from trees and laid them on the road. Other people took their coats off and laid them on the road. The palm branches and coats made a special road for the donkey that Jesus was riding on.

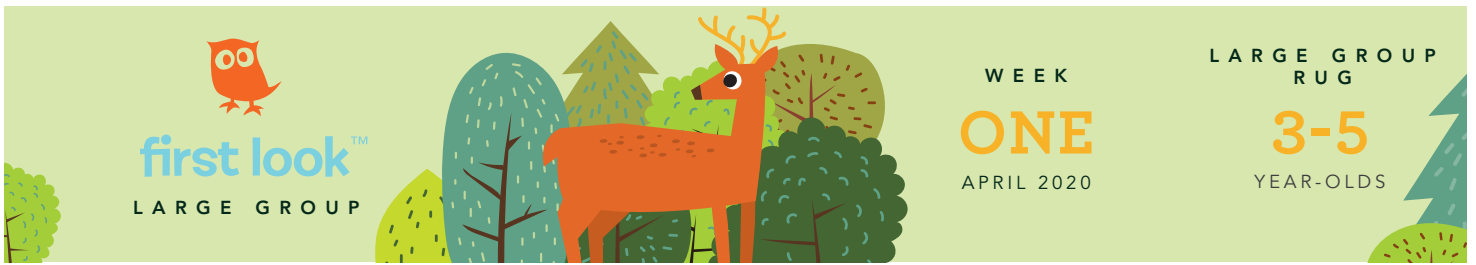
"And then . . . *(pause dramatically)*, THEY SAW JESUS! *(Wave palm branch.)*

(Option: Story Image W1 03)

"They were so excited to see Jesus that they began waving palm branches in the air and shouting, 'Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus!'

"Wave your palm branches with me and say, 'Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus!'"

CHILDREN AND LEADER: "Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus! Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus! Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus!"



PRELUDE

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10 MINUTES

10 MINUTES

LEADER: "The people were celebrating Jesus because they knew He was special. And we still celebrate Jesus on Palm Sunday because **Jesus is alive** and He wants to be our friend forever! So when I ask you, '**Who is alive?**' I want you to say, '**Jesus is alive,**' and wave your palm branch in the air. Ready? **Who is alive?**"

CHILDREN AND LEADER: (*Wave palm branches.*) "**Jesus is alive!**"

LEADER: "Again! **Who is alive?**"

CHILDREN AND LEADER: (*Wave palm branches.*) "**Jesus is alive!**"

LEADER: "Thank you so much for helping me tell today's Bible story and for celebrating Jesus with me!

"Okay, friends, it's time to close our eyes and talk to God, so make sure your palm branches are very quiet."

PRAYER

LEADER: "Dear God, we are so excited that **Jesus is alive** and that we can celebrate Him, just like they did a long time ago on that very first Palm Sunday. Thank You for sending Jesus to be our friend forever. Help us remember that we can say, 'Hosanna! Hosanna! Yay, Jesus!' every day! We love You, God. In Jesus' name, amen."