

8 DAYS OF HOLY WEEK

Hands on Activities for Families

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APRIL 5, 2020

MARK 11:1-11

PALM-LEAF COOKIES

Make palm-leaf cookies by following these steps:

1. Cut frozen cookie dough into 2 x 1/2-inch strips.
2. Place aluminum foil on a cookie sheet and spray it with nonstick cooking spray.
3. Roll the cookie strips and shape them into an outline of a palm leaf on the foil. Close all edges in the outline.
4. Crush green candies in a bag with a hammer, and sprinkle to fill in the cookie center.
5. Bake at 375 degrees for about eight minutes.

With your family, contrast the sweetness of the cookies with the harshness of breaking the candies with a hammer. Tell your children that this was a sweet day for Jesus, but he knew that soon he would be broken—or would die—for our sins.

APRIL 6, 2020

MARK 11:15-18

THE TEMPLE

Tell your children that this area of the Temple was the place non-Jews could come to pray, but it had become a dirty, noisy, unworshipful place.

Together, decorate a worshipful space in your home for Easter Week. Include a Bible, candles, and an area to display the items you'll use this week. A small, bare tree branch laced with white Christmas lights makes a nice backdrop.

You can review these items at the beginning of each devotion. Light the candles or turn on the lights only during devotions to keep it special and meaningful.

APRIL 7, 2020

MARK 14:3-9

PRECIOUS GIFTS

This woman gave Jesus a gift that was very precious. We can give gifts that come from our heart, too.

Have each family member share something he or she can do to honor Jesus. As each person shares, spray perfume into the air or on the person.

Decorate a beautiful piece of paper and form a cylinder around the perfume bottle for display at your family worship space.

APRIL 8, 2020

MATTHEW 26:14-16

JESUS BETRAYED

You'll need:

30 dimes

Tell kids that Judas betrayed Jesus for about 120 days of wages. Let the kids count the dimes and place them at your family worship space.

Ask:

Was Jesus' life on earth worth more than 30 pieces of silver? Why or why not?

What was the true value of Jesus' life to our family?

APRIL 9, 2020

JOHN 13:1-5

MAUNDY THURSDAY

You'll need:

a bowl

a bar of soap

paper towels

Jesus washed feet to show his love. Have a bowl, a bar of soap, and paper towels ready. Take turns washing each other's hands and drying them as you express love to each other.

Display the soap at your family worship space.

APRIL 10, 2020

MARK 15:21-39

GOOD FRIDAY

You'll need:

two horseshoe or carpenter's nails

light gauge wire

a shoelace for each child

Follow these steps:

Help children lay their nails across each other like a cross, then start wrapping the wire around the point where the nails intersect to bind the nails into a cross.

Crisscross the wire in the center.

Have the kids recall an event of the Crucifixion with each wrap.

Wrap more wire around the top and make a loop to hold the shoelace.

Encourage family members to wear this as a cross to remember that Jesus died for them on Good Friday.

APRIL 11, 2020

MARK 15:42-47

PREPARED FOR BURIAL

You'll need:

crepe paper

Take turns wrapping each other in crepe paper just as Jesus may have looked when prepared for burial. Talk about how the disciples might've felt when all their hopes seemed destroyed when Jesus died.

Ask:

What do you want to say to Jesus to thank him for dying for you?

Talk about how the burial isn't the end of the story, but that it was a very sad day for Jesus' friends.

APRIL 12, 2020

LUKE 24:1-9

EASTER

You'll need:

cupcakes

a trick candle that relights

Light the candle and talk about how Jesus came to be the light of the world. On Saturday, it looked like the light had been blown out.

Blow out the candle and wait in silence while the flame is gone. When the flame comes back, celebrate with the cupcakes!

Point out that nothing can ever snuff out Jesus, the light of the world.