



# WONDER WALKS

JOURNEYS THROUGH THE EASTER STORY

# WALK ONE

## JESUS ENTERS JERUSALEM

### READ

#### John 12:12-19

The next day the large crowd that had come for the feast heard that Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem. So they took branches from palm trees and went out to meet him. They shouted,

“Hosanna! ”

“Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!”

“Blessed is the king of Israel!”

Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it. This is just as it is written in Scripture. It says,

“City of Zion, do not be afraid.

See, your king is coming.

He is sitting on a donkey’s colt.”

At first, Jesus’ disciples did not understand all this. They realized it only after he had received glory. Then they realised that these things had been written about him. They realised that these things had been done to him.

A crowd had been with Jesus when he called Lazarus from the tomb and raised him from the dead. So they continued to tell everyone about what had happened. Many people went out to meet him. They had heard that he had done this sign. So the Pharisees said to one another, “This isn’t getting us anywhere. Look how the whole world is following him!”

### DO

**The crowds thought Jesus was going to be a king that led an army.** Pick up some sticks from the ground. March with your sticks like an army.

**Jesus was going to be a different kind of king.** He showed this by riding on a donkey, not a war horse. Snap your sticks to remind you that Jesus was a peaceful king. He had come to stop fighting and conflict.

**Jesus was coming into Jerusalem to die on a cross.** Make your sticks into the shape of a cross. Leave your cross shapes somewhere where other people will see them.

### THINK

**Look at some branches on trees.** Praise Jesus for who he is.

Think about the kind of king Jesus was showing himself to be when he rode on the donkey.

Think of situations that need peace and gentleness. Talk to Jesus about these things.

There wasn’t a throne waiting for Jesus - there was a cross. Look for cross shapes on your walk. Thank Jesus for being a king who died for the whole world.



### TALK



**Talk about these questions together:**

What kind of king do you think the crowd wanted Jesus to be?

What was Jesus trying to show them by riding on the donkey into Jerusalem?

What kind of king do you think Jesus is?

# WALK TWO

## JESUS WASHES THE DISCIPLES' FEET

### READ

#### John 13:1-5, 12-17

It was just before the Passover Feast. Jesus knew that the time had come for him to leave this world. It was time for him to go to the Father. Jesus loved his disciples who were in the world. So he now loved them to the very end.

They were having their evening meal. The devil had already tempted Judas, son of Simon Iscariot. He had urged Judas to hand Jesus over to his enemies. Jesus knew that the Father had put everything under his power. He also knew he had come from God and was returning to God. So he got up from the meal and took off his outer clothes. He wrapped a towel around his waist. After that, he poured water into a large bowl. Then he began to wash his disciples' feet. He dried them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

When Jesus finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes. Then he returned to his place. "Do you understand what I have done for you?" he asked them. "You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord.' You are right. That is what I am. I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet. So you also should wash one another's feet. I have given you an example. You should do as I have done for you. What I'm about to tell you is true. A slave is not more important than his master. And a messenger is not more important than the one who sends him. Now you know these things. So you will be blessed if you do them.

### DO



**In this story Jesus asks us to do what he did.**

Think of ways you can serve each other as you walk.

Hold someone's hand who is struggling, encourage someone to keep going, help someone climb a tree, or jump over a puddle.

Think about ways you can serve each other at home too.

**This story shows us how much Jesus loves us.** Make a loveheart from natural items you find on your walk. Make it big enough for everyone on your walk to stand inside. Say thank you to Jesus for loving us. Leave your big love heart for someone else to find.

### THINK

**Find somewhere on your walk that has a view.**

Pray for all those people that are part of your view, that they would know the love of Jesus.



Look around for signs of how people serve each other e.g. bins that someone will empty, police officers keeping the streets safe, someone helping someone else. In this story Jesus serves his disciples by doing a task that no one else was willing to do.

Choose something to do today that would show that kind of service and love.

### TALK

**Talk about these questions together:**

Why do you think Jesus washed his disciples' feet?

If you had been there, how would you have felt as Jesus washed your feet? What would you have said to him?

What can you do in your life that would show the same kind of attitude that Jesus had?



# WALK THREE

## JESUS ARRESTED

### READ

#### John 18:1-6

When Jesus had finished praying, he left with his disciples. They crossed the Kidron Valley. On the other side there was a garden. Jesus and his disciples went into it.

Judas knew the place. He was going to hand Jesus over to his enemies. Jesus had often met in that place with his disciples. So Judas came to the garden. He was guiding a group of soldiers and some officials. The chief priests and the Pharisees had sent them. They were carrying torches, lanterns and weapons.

Jesus knew everything that was going to happen to him. So he went out and asked them, "Who do you want?"

"Jesus of Nazareth," they replied.

"I am he," Jesus said. Judas, who was going to hand Jesus over, was standing there with them. When Jesus said, "I am he," they moved back. Then they fell to the ground.

### DO

**Play a game of hide and seek.** When the person hiding is nearly caught, they jump out and shout, "Here I am!" The people who are seeking fall down.

Why wasn't Jesus hiding from the people who were looking for him in today's story?



### THINK

**As you walk, imagine being in the garden with Jesus.** Imagine looking at Jesus and seeing him step forward and say, "I am he".

Jesus said "**I am**" lots of other times in John's Gospel:

I am the bread of life, I am the way, the truth and the life, I am the resurrection and the life, I am the light of the world, I am the good shepherd, I am the gate, I am the true vine.

Choose one of these "I am" sayings and think about it as you continue your walk.

### TALK

**Talk about these questions together:**

If you had been in the garden with Jesus, what would you have felt, said or done as you saw the people approaching with torches and weapons?

Who do you think seems to be in charge of all that is happening in the garden?

Jesus said, "I am he". Why do you think they fell down when he said that?

Does anything in your life feel out of control? How can this story of Jesus being in control in a very difficult situation help you?

